Are you Alice? アーユーアリス？

片桐いくみ

原作：二宮愛

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エロゴ 一迅社

9784758057806

1929979005528

ISBN978-4-7580-5780-6

C9979 ¥552E

雑誌 50671-26

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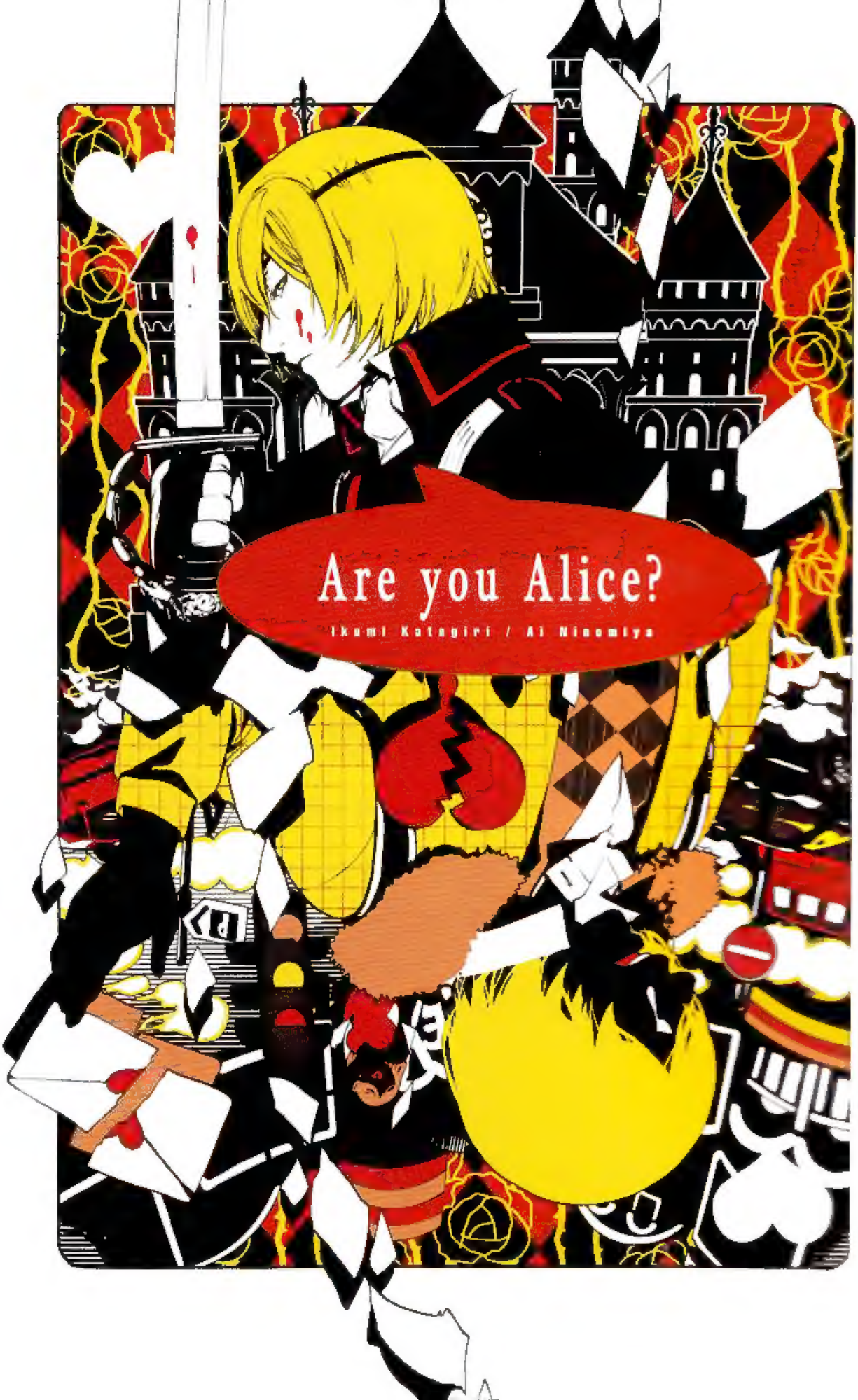
一迅社


Are you Alice?
Ikumi Katagiri / Ai Ninomiya

Are you Alice?
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Are you Alice?

In the center of a gloomy Forest, a Mad Hatter, a March Hare and a Fast-asleep Dormouse were holding a tea party.

The huge table was heaped with sweet smelling cakes and so many cups that everything was becoming crowded. "No room! No room!" they called to Alice in loud voices, turning her away.

"That's a lie. Even though there's so many seats open, why can't I sit down?"

"It's not that you can't, or anything like that. It's only that... don't you think it's rather rude to these guys if you plan to participate however you want without an invitation, Alice?"

Since the March Hare said it with such excessive happiness, Alice began to feel rather embarrassed.

The meaning of the March Hare's existence...
He established a good relationship with the "Mad Hatter."
Therefore, his end should definitely be
Name.
Name...
My name...
The same as the Dormouse's ——

If I lose the game, then my power will be transferred to you.
To even distort the game's rules so much, what in the world do you want to protect?
Only for Alice
Is that so?
My name is "March Hare," huh?
I'll treat it with great care, White Rabbit.
EVEN IF I DIE, YOU WILL CONTINUE LIVING AND PROTECT ALICE.
... am I existing as the White Rabbit.

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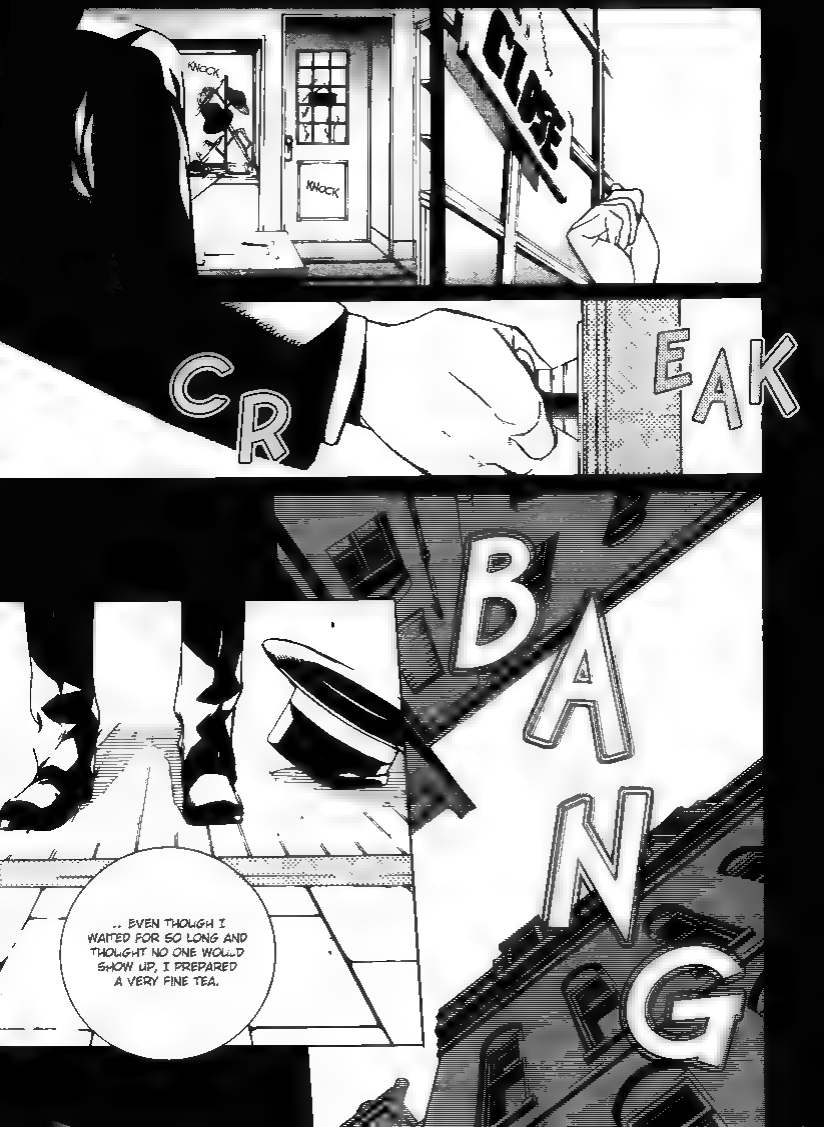
@ ingectat-e

Why did I come to such a country!?
THUD
WHITE-CH...

IT'S MY FAULT THAT ALICE IS STILL DEAD.
WHY DIDN'T ALICE COME TO KILL ME?
WHY IS IT NO GOOD FOR ME? I CAN'T HELP ALICE AT ALL.
EVEN THOUGH I ONLY WANT TO SAVE ALICE, WHY...!
... WHITE-CHAN...
I WAS EASILY TOSSED ASIDE.
IT'S NOT TURNING OUT HOW I'D LIKE. MY DREAMS, THE WORLD, THE STORY...
WHY ARE YOU TRYING TO PROTECT A STORY WHICH WASN'T CREATED FOR YOU...?
WHITE-CHAN... WHY IS IT...
YOU'RE ABLE TO LIVE SO STRONGLY?

WHY...?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'M HERE FOR ALICE. I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THROW HER AWAY.
ALICE IS RELYING ON ME. I WAS TOLD TO PROTECT WONDERLAND...
I CAN'T LIVE IF ALICE ISN'T AROUND...
IT'S BECAUSE ALICE IS MY EVERYTHING.
AND WONDERLAND'S ALICE.
TO ME... ABSOLUTE... HAPPINESS... IS...
... WONDERLAND'S... ALICE.

For me, being born as the March Hare ——


KNOCK
KNOCK
CLICK
CREAK
BANG
.. EVEN THOUGH I WAITED FOR SO LONG AND THOUGHT NO ONE WOULD SHOW UP, I PREPARED A VERY FINE TEA.

EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ASK, HUH?
FOR MY NAME.
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE YOU HAVE ANY INTENTION OF BEING AN ALLY.
BECAUSE THE WHITE RABBIT DIDN'T GIVE ME A RULE.
... YEAH. I UNDERSTAND THAT WE...
ONE CAN'T ESCAPE FROM THIS GAME, YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, RIGHT?
IF A PERSON IN WONDERLAND HAS A NAME AND RULE THAT ALLOWS THEM TO HIT SOMEONE, THEN EVERYONE WOULD KNOW ABOUT IT
SO, IT'S NOT NECESSARY FOR ME TO TELL YOU MY NAME.
I CAN'T BECOME YOUR ALLY EVEN IF I WERE TO DIE.
YOU CAN CALL ME MITSUKI.
NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M

FROM TODAY ON, IT SEEMS YOU'LL BE A TEACHER WHO TEACHES ME THE METHOD OF MAKING DELICIOUS BLACK TEA.
IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, WOULD YOU TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE DE-ICIOUS BLACK TEA?
I'VE GOT IT.
WELL, IT'S NO USE, BUT THIS IS PROBABLY JUST RIGHT
I'M ONLY HEARING USE-LESS RESISTANCE
YOU MEAN, YOU DON'T WANT TO CALL ME BY MY NAME.
. I SEE
PHHT

IN NO WAY IS THAT GOING TO IRRITATE ME
BUT QUIT IT WITH THE "TEACHER" THING
IF THE WHITE RABBIT IS KILLED, THEN THE GAME WILL END THE MARCH HARE'S TURN DIDN'T EXIST IN THE FIRST PLACE.
T A P
YOU GAVE HIM THE HAT FOR FREE, RIGHT?
THE MARCH HARE IS MY CUSTOMER
IF HE'S BY MY SIDE THEN HE... HAVE A CHANCE TO KILL ALICE?
I THOUGHT IT WASN'T LIKE YOU TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH SUCH USELESS GUYS.

I MEANT TO SAY IT BEFORE, BUT I DON'T LIKE HOW YOU PUT IT.
WHATEVER
AND IF HE TRIES THAT, THEN YOU'LL BE ABLE TO KILL HIM.
DO YOU THINK THE WHITE RABBIT KEEPS THAT GUY AT A DISTANCE?
HEY, WHY
IT'S NOT BECAUSE HE'S USELESS.
IT'S BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT TO INVOLVE AN IMPORTANT FRIEND IN THE GAME.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SAY?

I DON'T LIKE HOW YOU SAID THAT.
WHAT-EVER.
I CAN'T THINK OF A WORSE NONSPEAKING, HORRIBLE FRIEND WHO'S HAD THEIR FILL OF BLACK TEA.
... THAT'S TRUE. IF YOU'RE MY IMPOR-TANT FRIEND, THEN YOU'LL CERTAINLY BE AT THE POINT WHERE YOU WANT TO DO THINGS LIKE THAT.
I WONDER IF, SOON, I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET INVOLVED ANYMORE EITHER, MAD HATTER-SAN.

IF YOU KEEP DOING MEAN THINGS LIKE THAT, THEN YOU'LL TRULY BE HATED.
IF YOU KNOW THAT, THEN YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND SAVE HER.
CLINK
WELL, THEN; I GUESS I SHOULD GO GREET ALICE AFTER THIS.
—— IT'S TIME FOR THAT STUPID CAT TO CATCH HER.

I SEE.
SOMEWHERE WHERE YOU'RE NOT
IF IT'S POSSIBLE TO BE HATED
. SO? WHERE WILL YOU RUN TO THIS TIME?

BUT THERE IS ONE WAY
A WAY TO EASILY ESCAPE THIS COUNTRY
IT'S USELESS TO EVEN BOTHER TRYING.
NO ONE IS ABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THIS COUNTRY
SINCE I HAVE MY USELESS PRIDE OF BEING USELESS.
THIS IS MY VAIN STRUGGLE
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO USE IT YET
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...
.. I
Shake
IF IT WAS FOR THE SAKE OF BEING ALICE, THEN I WOULDN'T CARE ABOUT KILLING SOMEONE ELSE
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT
BUT, I UNDERSTAND
THAT'S NOT MY PURPOSE.
PURPOSE

YOUR REAL PURPOSE IS TO HELP ALICE KILL THE WHITE RABBIT, ISN'T IT?
... EVEN YOU GET THAT, RIGHT?
I'M DIFFERENT FROM YOU. I CAN ONLY CLING TO A NAME AND LIVE.
SOMETHING LIKE A PURPOSE...
WHAT WOULD I DO IN ORDER TO FULFILL THAT?
THERE'S NO REASON I WOULD UNDERSTAND SOMETHING LIKE THAT, RIGHT...?
Spin
I'M GOING HOME FOR TODAY.
YOU.

IT SEEMS I'M GOING TO NEED A SOUVENIR FOR YOU. NEXT TIME, ALICE.
WITH HYPOCRITICAL IDEAS LIKE THOSE, *EVERYTHING*, INCLUDING THE WORLD'S WAY OF THINKING, WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO CHANGE.
.. BUT PLEASE, REMEMBER THIS WELL, *YOU ARE NAÏVE*.
I'LL DO IT PROPERLY.
AND AFTER THAT,
THIS ALICE HAS A RULE OF NOT ACCEPTING *ANYTHING* EXCEPT CASH PRESENTS.
THANKS FOR THE ADVICE. I'M GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING GOOD, TOO.
THE THINGS YOU WANT TO PROTECT, AND THE LIKE. HE'S KNOWN THEM FROM THE START.
A MERE RABBIT CAN BE DECEIVED BY A CAT, CAN'T HE?

MASTER, IS IT REALLY OKAY NOT TO STOP ME?
ALICE
CLINK
THAT'S THE RULE THE WHITE RABBIT DECIDED TO GIVE ME.
IF YOU WANT TO BE KILLED BY ME, YOU HAVE TO TRY YOUR BEST TO BECOME ALICE'S ENEMY
IS IT REALLY OKAY FOR YOU NOT TO KILL ME?
I REALLY HATE ALICE.
TO THE POINT WHERE I WANT TO KILL HIM.
I DON'T GET IT EVEN IF YOUR PRECIOUS ALICE DIES?
THAT'S SURPRISINGLY FLEXIBLE
THAT GUY IS PRETTY GOOD I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD DO.

LISTEN UP.
THIS IS ALL THE START OF YOUR VAIN STRUGGLE SINCE YOU GAVE YOURSELF A NAME.
KEEP GOING UNTIL THE END
... MITSUKI
.. I ALWAYS WANTED TO HEAR THAT.
SO IT'S A VAIN STRUGGLE?
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION OF THE FOOD TASTING PARTY?
YO, MORE THAN JUST BEING FINE,
HOW USE-LESS.
SHUT UP
I WASN'T ABLE TO KILL HIM, SINCE I'M A PACIFIST
I LIKE SMOKED RABBIT MORE THAN RABBIT STEW.
UNFOR-TUNATE..Y, I DIDN'T TRY ANY OF THE FOOD
"YOU'RE THE THING I CAN'T STOMACH THE MOST, AFTER ALL."
OR WERE YOU JUST PRETENDING TO GET ALONG WITH HIM?
YOU KNEW HIS PURPOSE THE WHOLE TIME, AND STIL.. GOT ALONG WITH HIM?

I WAS THINKING IT WAS ONLY ABOUT YOU HAVING A "FRIEND."
PRETTY ENVIABLE, ISN'T IT? BEING HATED TO THE POINT OF FEELING REFRESHED
IS THERE ANY SIGNIFICANCE IN HAVING TWO CHOICES?
NOT REALLY, I'M FINE WITH EITHER ONE
THE USELESS THING IS HAVING A PURPOSE THAT'S BECOMING USELESS. THEREFORE, I'M GOING TO LEAVE YOUR SIDE
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE THE SAME.
HUH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
UNTIL THE GAME I'VE BEEN WISHING FOR ENDS, I'LL BE PLAYING WITH THAT GUY.
THAT'S FINE.
IF SO, THEN THE NEXT TIME HE COMES TO VISIT, HE'LL BE MY GUEST AND SINCE YOU WON'T BE INVOLVED IN ANY WAY, I'M GOING TO EAT ALL THE SOUVENIR CAKES ALL BY MYSELF. EVERYTHING IS SETTLED. ISN'T THAT GREAT, HATTER-SAN?
THE PURPOSE FOR THAT USELESS RABBIT IS "TO PASS TIME WITH THE FAKE ALICE," RIGHT?

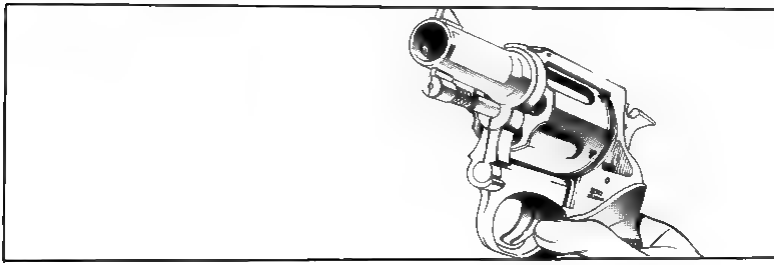
... YOU'RE REALLY NOT CUTE AT ALL.
AH, THAT'S RIGHT AS FOR MY FEELINGS ABOUT THE STEW.
THIS ALICE-SAN IS NAIVE.
AND TO SUM IT UP, JUST A WEE BIT OF HYPOCRITE FLAVORING.
WELL, IF WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SWEETNESS, THEN YOU'VE LOST
BEING A LITTLE SPITEFUL IS A MUST TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD, ISN'T IT?
SO IT'S OKAY IF THIS GUY IS ALSO SWEET TO THE POINT OF MAKING YOU SICK TO YOUR STOMACH, RIGHT?
DO YOU WANT A DRINK TOO?
I DON'T WANT THAT KIND OF SUGAR-SATURATED BLACK TEA.

T/N: "Amai" is both "sweet" and "naive" in Japanese. So this is a constant food pun.

I WAS BORN FOR THE WHITE RABBIT
I GET IT.
IF I'M AROUND WHITE-CHAN ANY FURTHER
JANGLE
THEN, THE WHITE RABBIT WON'T BE ABLE TO EXIST AS THE WHITE RABBIT
THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

rustle
BECAUSE YOU'LL DEFINITELY DEPEND ON HIM.
EVEN THOUGH YOU WENT THROUGH THE TROUBLE OF BEING "FRIENDS," IT'S UNFORTUNATE.
HOWEVER, YOU SHOULD HAVE A LITTLE MORE PATIENCE
THIS ALICE WILL DEFINITELY KILL THE WHITE RABBIT
I REALLY BELIEVE THAT
.. IT'S SO VEXING, ISN'T IT?
WHY COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN ME?

.. ONLY THAT,
HUH ?
— BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT ALICE
IT'S CERTAINLY ONLY THAT



Eat me
RUSTLE

I HAVE TO FIGHT ON MY OWN.
BECAUSE THAT'S THE PROMISE I MADE TO ALICE.
SINCE IT'S FINE FOR YOU NOT TO DO ANYTHING. AND SINCE IT'S FINE THAT YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
SO UNTIL THEN, YOU SHOULD CONTINUE LIVING AND WAITING.
WHEN EVERYTHING IS OVER, IT'LL BE OKAY TO MAKE FRIENDS.

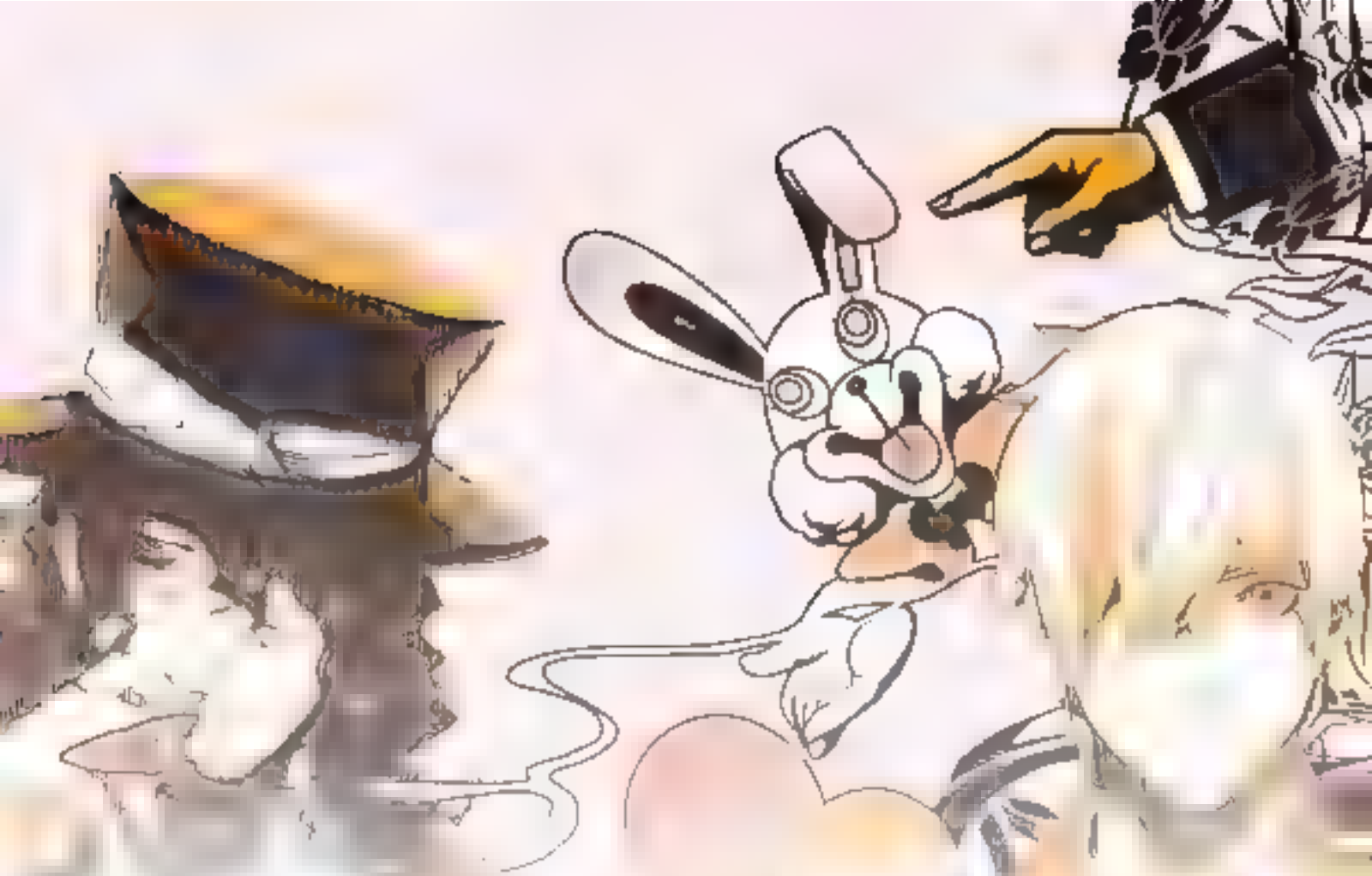
I'M SORRY,
WHITE RABBIT.
MITSUKI
I'M SORRY
BUT THEN, I DEFINITELY WON'T BE HERE ANYMORE.

BANG

CLATTER

THE DESTINATION OF THE BULLET WAS

THE AUGUST 2012 ISSUE
COMES OUT JUNE 28TH!!



FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

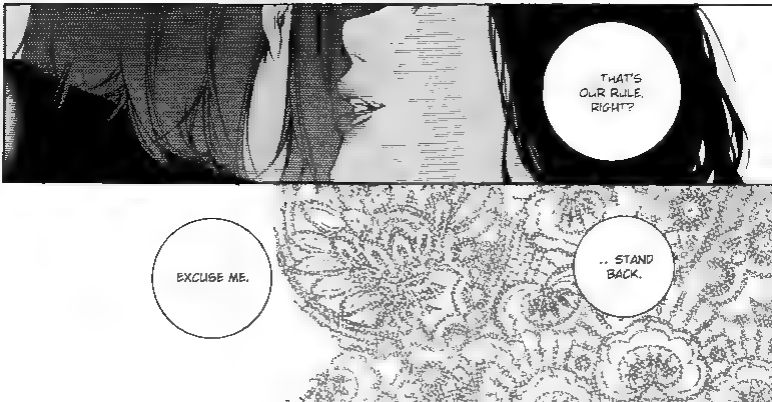
Are You Alice?

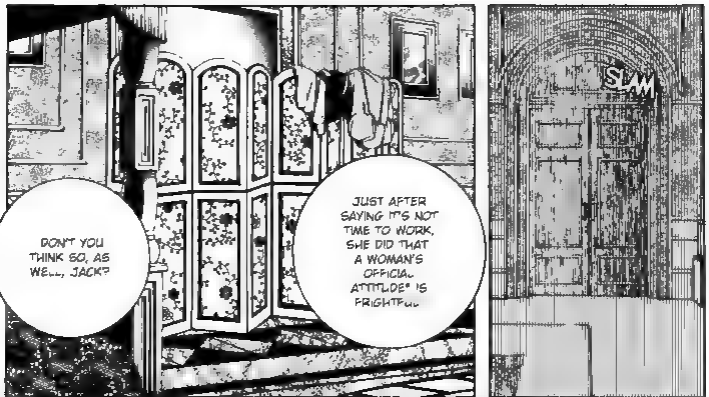
by Ninomiya Ai (story) and Katagiri Ikumi (art)

Are you Alice?
THE GOINGS ON AT THE CASTLE TODAY ARE
IT SUITS YOU INCREDIBLY YOUR MAJESTY
TODAY, PLEASE FORGET ALL YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AND ENJOY EVERYTHING
AH
SOON, A... THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE PARTY WILL BE IN ORDER

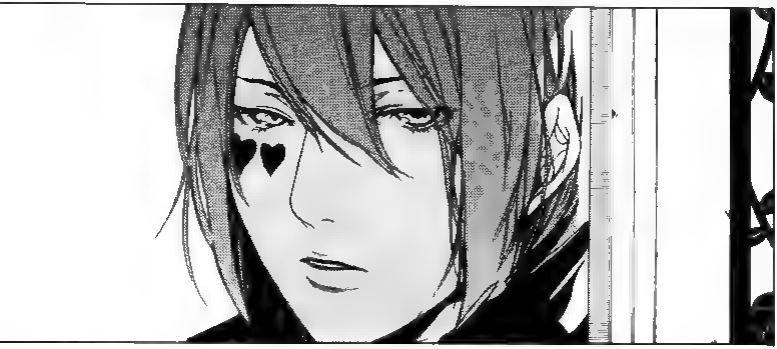
I CAN'T DO THAT
THEN I HOPE YOU'LL... LISTEN TO A PERSONAL REQUEST.
IF IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO FORGET MY RESPONSIBILITIES TODAY
Piap

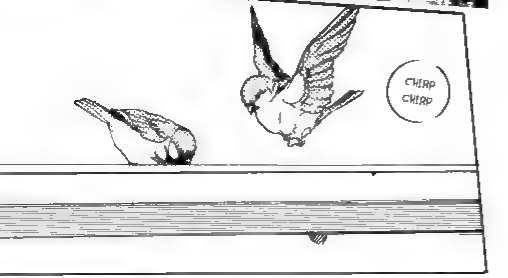
WE'RE HERE TO ENSURE THAT NO MATTER THE TIME, YOU DON'T FORGET YOUR PRIDE AS THE QUEEN OF HEARTS
YOU ARE THE SUPERVISOR OF WONDERLAND, YOUR MAJESTY.


THAT'S OUR RULE, RIGHT?
EXCUSE ME.
.. STAND BACK.


DON'T YOU THINK SO, AS WE..., JACK?
JUST AFTER SAYING IT'S NOT TIME TO WORK, SHE DID THAT A WOMAN'S OFFICIAL ATTITUDE* IS FRIGHTFUL
SLAM

*T/N: Even though she said it was a day, he could relax, she still refused his personal request (sex) ... I didn't know the Trumps could refuse him.) Her "official attitude" is opposed to her private attitude, which I assume means that she's totally sexed him up before, and is now just acting proper because of the location/occasion)





Are You Alice?

Chapter.38 Cinderella

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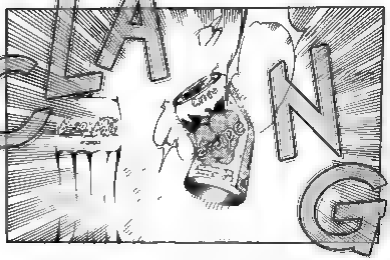
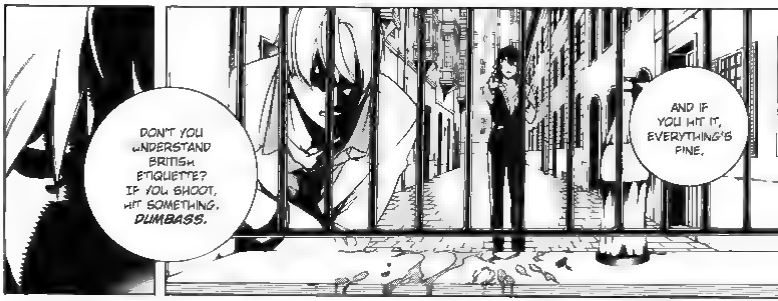
CLATTER
BANG
BANG
BANG
Grape
AS EXPECTED OF A-ICE-SAN. AN IMPRESSIVE EXPERT
... PERFECT.
Physical condition
TCH
WHEN, DID YOU GET HERE? YOU STALKER!
I HATE TO BOAST, BUT I'M A SKILLFUL STALKER.
THE PROOF BEING THAT I WAS HERE FROM THE START
UWAH, YOU'RE SO ANNOYING.

I'VE DECIDED TO PROTECT MYSELF
I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN'T KEEP DEPENDING ON YOU FOR EVERYTHING, EVEN WHEN YOU'RE AROUND
Rather, it's a miracle I hadn't become distrustful of other humans until now.
YOU'RE THE ONE BEING SO LOUD THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING.
THE RABBITS WILL JUST RUN AWAY SCARED LIKE THIS, WON'T THEY?
Click
THE RABBITS AND WHAT-NOT ARE TRIVIAL.
I MEAN, I CAN'T DEPEND ON YOU MOST OF ALL
It seems like my bone is completely healed too. Another miracle.
THE HELL?
WAS BEING BETRAYED BY THAT STUPID CAT REALLY THAT MUCH OF A SHOCK?
Click.
.. STOP IT
I'M SO TIRED ALREADY
THE HELL? SINCE YOU'VE ONLY MANAGED TO HIT ONE OUT OF ALL THAT, JUST GIVE UP, ALREADY
SHUT UP.
OH, IS THAT SO? SO YOU'RE GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY TO TRY YOUR BEST JUST FOR ME?
THANKS.

LISTEN UP, I'LL TELL YOU
HUH? ADVICE?
SO, WITHOUT SAYING SOME STUPID, USELESS, DISAGREEABLE THING, GIVE ME SOME ADVICE.
IT'S OUR ALLIED QUEEN THAT WANTS ME TO KILL THE WHITE RABBIT, RIGHT?

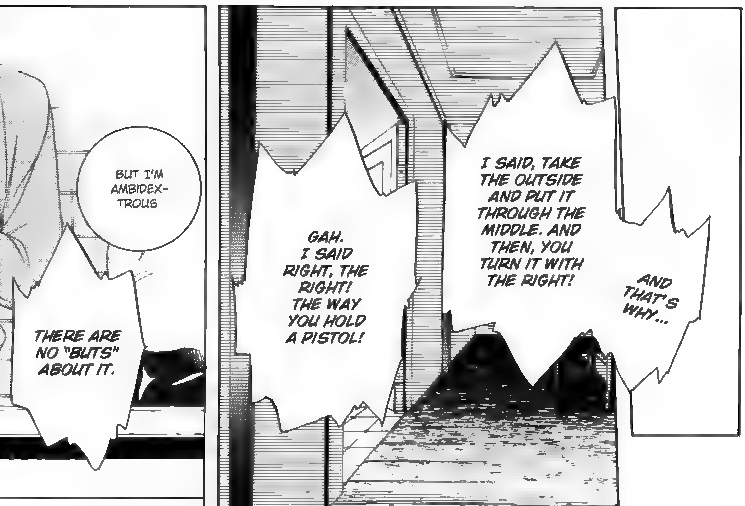

CLANG

BANG
SHOOT.


DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND BRITISH ETIQUETTE? IF YOU SHOOT, HIT SOMETHING, DUMBASS.
AND IF YOU HIT IT, EVERYTHING'S FINE.

IF YOU WANT TO MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL, I'LL TE... YOU ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN.
IF YOU WERE THE TARGET, I'D CERTAINLY HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO HIT YOU.

TEACH ME HOW TO TIE A NECKTIE
.. HUH?


BUT I'M AMBIDEX-TROUS
THERE ARE NO "BUTS" ABOUT IT.
GAH. I SAID RIGHT, THE RIGHT! THE WAY YOU HOLD A PISTOL!
I SAID, TAKE THE OUTSIDE AND PUT IT THROUGH THE MIDDLE. AND THEN, YOU TURN IT WITH THE RIGHT!
AND THAT'S WHY...

Sigh...
I'VE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU FOR A WHILE, NOW
IT'S BRITISH ETIQUETTE, ISN'T IT?
COME TO THINK OF IT, HOW THE HELL DID YOU GET AS OLD AS YOU ARE WITHOUT LEARNING TO TIE A NECKTIE?
IT'S JUST MY ASPIRATION AS A DOMINEERING HUSBAND
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT THE AMBITIONS ARE INFINITE.
HUH? SOMETHING AS STUPID AS THAT?
THE NECKTIE IS JUST SOMETHING I WANT TO WEAR FOR MY WIFE
TRUE SO, IF IT'S LIKE THAT,
YOU'RE GONNA TAKE HOLD OF THE LONG PIECE FROM THE BEGINNING, AND. .
NEVERTHELESS, IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT'S REALLY AN ASPIRATION FOR A DOMINEERING HUSBAND, IS IT?

Are you Alice?
CHE
YOU SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED IT THE FIRST TIME! YOU'RE LIKE AN UNSKILLED PRINCE FROM A DIFFERENT PLANET!
IF YOU SEE A PROBLEM AT THE START, THEN SAY SOMETHING AT THE START! YOU'RE BAD AT CONVEYING THE ESSENTIAL POINTS.
THIS ISN'T RIGHT. YOU MADE A MISTAKE AT THE START.
SHUT UP! JUST DROP ALL THAT SHIT ALREADY!
AH, DON'T FUCK WITH ME. ARE YOU TRYING TO SNATCH AWAY MY CHASTITY?
GAH, THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME. GIVE IT HERE, LET ME TIE IT!
I'M NOT PRAISING YOU!
STOP PRAISING ME
SHHF
WELL, WHAT?
SHHF
WELL?
SHHF

SLIP
ALL RIGHT. ALL DONE
SINCE I'VE GONE OUT OF MY WAY TO TEACH YOU A LITTLE ABOUT MY BRITISH GENTLEMAN'S FASHION,
YOU HAVE TO TELL ME SOMETHING TOO. WHO'S YOUR DATE?
HM?
IF I'M YOUR WIFE, THEN DO YOU HAVE A "MISTRESS"?
I'M COMPLETELY DEDICATED TO ALICE.
DON'T SAY THAT SO EARNESTLY IT'S CREEPY AS HELL.
RELAX. THERE'S AN 87% CHANCE THAT YOU'RE NOT THE ONE.
THAT DICEY FIGURE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH!

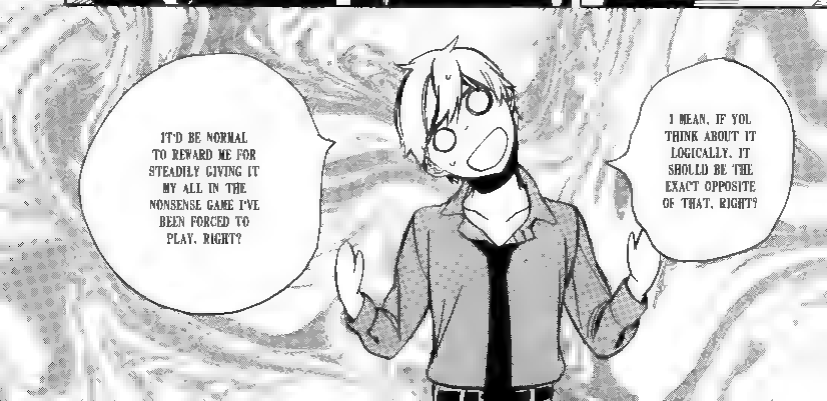
TODAY THERE'S A PARTY IN WHICH EVERY RESIDENT OF THE COUNTRY PARTICIPATES.
WITHOUT A NECKTIE, I'D BE TURNED AWAY
A PARTY?
YEAH. HOSTED BY THE QUEEN.
. . HEH. I SEE. SO IT'S THAT QUEEN AGAIN?
THAT AWFUL GUY IS PRETTY CAREFREE, HUH?
WHILE I'M FRANTICALLY CHASING AFTER THE WHITE RABBIT, HE'S INDULGING IN EVERY POSSIBLE LUXURY AS IF EVERY DAY WERE SUNDAY
HE'S DEFINITELY THE "IF THERE'S NO BREAD, THEN LET THEM EAT CAKE" TYPE, ISN'T HE?
ALSO, NEXT TIME SOMETHING LIKE THIS COMES UP TELL ME SOONER
IF WE'RE GOING TO THE QUEEN'S CASTLE, I NEED TO GO AND GET DRESSED UP, TOO.
WHY'S THAT?
THE QUEEN HAS SIMILAR TASTES IN WOMEN AS I DO.
SO I'D BE MISSING OUT ON ALL THE DREAMY ROMANCE.
I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, ALICE.

YOU'RE "HOUSE-SITTING".
, WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HOUSE-SITTING"?
I MEAN "WAIT HERE IN THE HOUSE LIKE A GOOD BOY".
SORRY BUT YOU DIDN'T RECEIVE A WRITTEN INVITATION.
TODAY IS AN "ALICE FIXED HOLIDAY".
IF YOU CAME, I'D BE SPOILED.
AND THAT'S WHY
, BUT YOU JUST SAID THAT ALL THE COUNTRY'S RESIDENTS PARTICIPATED TODAY

CLICK
Alice fixed holiday
JEEZ, YOU'RE A BRAT WITH NO EDUCATION
YOU DON'T KNOW THE NATIONAL HOLIDAYS EITHER, DO YOU? IT'S COMMON SENSE, ISN'T IT?
THE COMMON SENSE IN THIS COUNTRY IS 87% IRRATIONALITY!
AS IF!
A...
LICE..
FIXED
HOLI
DAY?

ERR, HOLD ON A MINUTE
SO I'M THE ONLY ONE BEING LEFT BEHIND? BUT I'M WONDERLAND'S ALICE, RIGHT?
I SUPPOSE YOU THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE ALWAYS GOING TO BE THE CENTER OF EVERYTHING?
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN EVEN THE PEOPLE IN WONDERLAND WANT TO FORGET ABOUT ALICE.

WELL, LAST YEAR I DIDN'T PARTICIPATE
BUT IF YOU'RE ALICE, THEN THAT'S A DIFFERENT STORY
I'D ALSO LIKE TO FORGET YOUR EXISTENCE FOR AT LEAST ONE DAY
WHAT THE HELL DID YOU SAY!?


I MEAN, IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT LOGICALLY, IT SHOULD BE THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF THAT, RIGHT?
IT'D BE NORMAL TO REWARD ME FOR STEADILY GIVING IT MY ALL IN THE NONSENSE GAME I'VE BEEN FORCED TO PLAY, RIGHT?

YEP, THAT'S THE REALITY OF THE SITUATION.
THAT'S DEFINITELY A LIE! I DON'T ACCEPT THAT ANSWER!
WHOSE FAULT IS IT, THAT A BRAT WHO SAYS WHATEVER SELFISH THINGS HE WANTS, HAS BEEN NAMED ALICE? EVERY-ONE IS MAKING WAY TOO MUCH OF A FUSS ABOUT ALL THIS. IS THE ATMOS-PHERE REALLY THAT WEARY AND FATIGUING!?

SHUT UP ALREADY. EVERYONE ALREADY AGREES WITH THAT.
ANYWAY, IT'S A MATTER OF RULES, SO SHUT UP AND SETTLE DOWN.
EVEN THOUGH I'VE BEEN TRYING SO HARD, I'M NOT ALICE!
MY POINT IS, EVEN IF I AM ALICE, THAT QUEEN DOESN'T ACKNOWLEDGE IT! EVEN THOUGH I'D LIKE TO, I HAVEN'T BECOME ALICE, RIGHT? EVEN YOU THINK SO, DON'T YOU!?

YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO WORRY ABOUT SOMEONE AIMING FOR YOUR LIFE. SO ISN'T IT ALRIGHT TO SIMPLY PASS THE TIME ALONE AT YOUR LEISURE?
.. IT'S LIKE THIS.
TODAY, NO ONE WANTS TO BE IN YOUR COMPANY

OH, AND GUESS WHAT AFTER THAT?
IF YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, YOUR FAIRY GODMOTHER WILL APPEAR AND ESCORT YOU TO THE CASTLE, YOU KNOW?
TCH
IF I'M SO MUCH OF A BURDEN, THEN DON'T BOTHER STITCHING TOGETHER SUCH AN UNNECESSARY STORY!

I'M ALREADY TAKING GOOD CARE OF YOU, AREN'T I?
REMEMBER THIS, HATTER! ONE DAY YOU WILL FINALLY REALIZE THE PRECIOUS-NESS OF THIS ALICE!
DAMMIT, HE'S JUST MAKING FUN OF ME. .

TAKE CARE OF THAT LIMITED NAME
IF YOU WEREN'T "ALICE," THEN I WOULD HAVE KILLED YOU FIVE OR SIX TIMES ALREADY

SLAM
SEE YOU, CINDERE...LA.
.. I WAS PICKED UP BY A STEPMOTHER, TOO.
sigh
TICK
TICK
TOCK
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY WHEN THE HATTER WOULD SUMMON ME
FUHH

"EVERY RESIDENT OF WONDER..AND WILL PARTICIPATE."
WHERE IS THE PROBLEM THERE?
AH, I SEE. A "CAT" IS NO GOOD, THEN.
BUT I WONDER WHY I DIDN'T RECEIVE A WRITTEN INVITATION?
DID I MISS THE DELIVERY?
YOU'RE SO BAD AT READING THE ATMOSPHERE. YOU COULD PRACTICALLY DIE FROM IT BUT YOU'RE STILL PISSING ME OFF ENOUGH TO WANT TO KILL YOU.
AN ACQUAINTANCE TOLD ME THAT ABOUT YOU.
IS THAT RIGHT? BUT IT WAS ON PURPOSE.
GO DIE.
GRIND
AND WHERE DID YOU HEAR THAT ACQUAINTANCE'S STORY?
AS USUAL, WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR OWN RULE YOU'RE STILL NAIVE, HATTER-SAN.

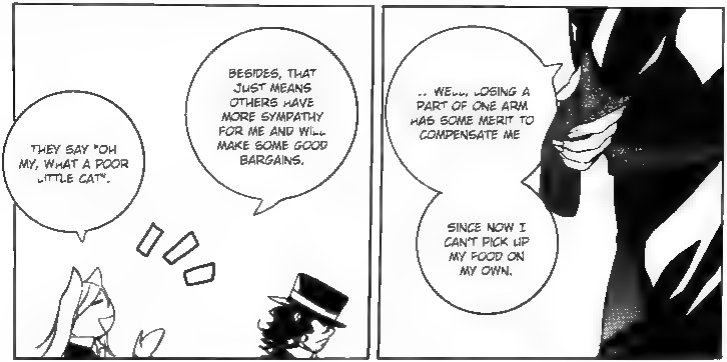
Are you Alice?

IF IT'S A RULE OF THE COUNTRY THEN I'LL ABIDE BY IT OBEDIENTLY
TODAY, ALICE MUSTN'T HAVE ANY COMPANY, RIGHT?
BUT SHOULD YOU REALLY BE SO WORRIED? EVEN A CAT CAN "HOUSE-SIT" ALL ALONE, YOU KNOW?
SHUT UP
FROM YOUR SPEECHES TO YOUR EXISTENCE, I DON'T BELIEVE A SINGLE THING ABOUT YOU.
SO JUST KEEP QUIET AND LET ME KEEP MY EYES ON YOU.
UP UNTIL NOW, YOU ALWAYS DISREGARDED THE HOLIDAYS AND STAYED CLOSE TO THE ALICES.
YOU HAVE A SURPRISINGLY BAD COMPATIBILITY WITH THIS ALICE, DON'T YOU?
YOU COULD DO "THAT" WITH THE OTHER ALICES THOUGH, RIGHT? HOW UNPLEASANT.
THIS IS THE WORST HOLIDAY.
DAMMIT, EVEN THOUGH I WAS SET FREE FROM BEING THAT BRAT'S BABY-SITTER...

WITHOUT THAT, THERE'S NO REASON TO LET HIM LIVE RIGHT?
BUT THERE'S STILL A USE FOR HIM, ISN'T THERE?
IT'S SOMETHING AN ACQUAINTANCE TOLD ME...?
UWAAH. YOU'RE HORRIBLE. YOU'RE ONLY PLANNING TO USE HIM AND TOSS HIM ASIDE?
HATTER-SAN, YOUR WORDS ARE JUST DRIPPING WITH UNPOPULARITY
YEP.
I SEE. I'M SURPRISED YOU HAVE AN ACQUAINTANCE WHO CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT THE HELL YOU TALK ABOUT, YOU STUPID CAT WELL, FOR THE TIME BEING YOU CAN BE HIS DELEGATE, ARE YOU PREPARED TO DIE?

Fixed
Alice Holiday
SEEMS LIKE HE'S WORRYING A LOT ABOUT SHOOTING YOUR ARM OFF.
AH
SPEAKING OF HIM..

WHOOPS, SORRY
AS EXPECTED, JUST NOW MIGHT HAVE BEEN ONE OF THOSE TIMES WHEN I WASN'T READING THE ATMOSPHERE.
CHE
YEP, I KNOW.
SINCE ALICE SURPRISINGLY LOVES ME.

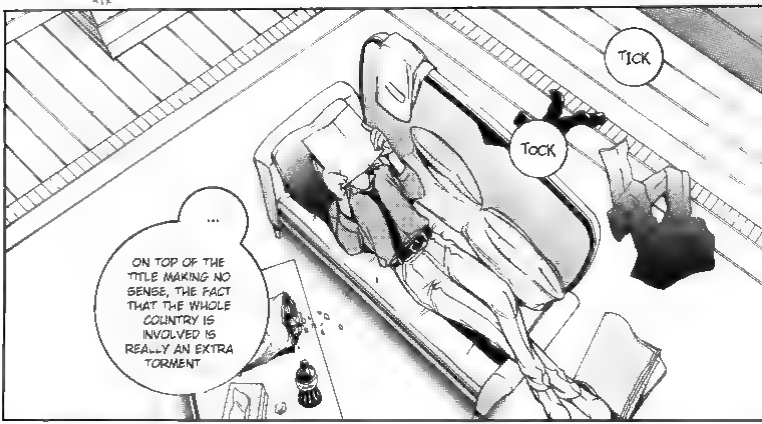

THEY SAY "OH MY, WHAT A POOR LITTLE CAT".
BESIDES, THAT JUST MEANS OTHERS HAVE MORE SYMPATHY FOR ME AND WILL MAKE SOME GOOD BARGAINS.
.. WELL, LOSING A PART OF ONE ARM HAS SOME MERIT TO COMPENSATE ME
SINCE NOW I CAN'T PICK UP MY FOOD ON MY OWN.

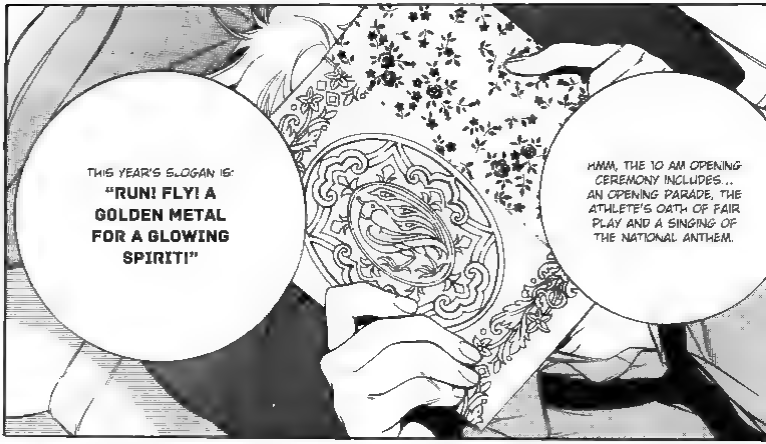
BUT AS I THOUGHT,
ALICE IS WORRYING ABOUT IT, HM?
THAT HE'S BEEN POLISHING UP HIS MARKSMANSHIP EVERY MORNING THOUGH HE HAS NO INTEREST IN HITTING THE TARGETS. RIGHT?
. YOU KNOW

SEEMS THAT HE COULDN'T HELP BUT WANT TO DRAW YOUR ATTENTION, HUH?
IT'S MY THEORY THAT THAT KID WANTED TO CONSULT WITH ME SO AT THE SAME TIME HE CLAMORED ABOUT LOUDLY

WELL, I GUESS I'LL GO AND GIVE ALICE-CHAN SOME ADVICE.
THOUGH, IF HE'S EXPECTING A LOT OF ME, IT'LL BE DIFFICULT TO GO AND MEET WITH HIM.
I'M BAD WITH APOLOGIES.
DURING THOSE TIMES, I NEVER KNOW WHAT KIND OF FACE I SHOULD BE MAKING
IF IT CAME TO THAT, I'D BE MORE COMFORTABLE WITH BEING HATED.
I WONDER IF THE ONLY CONVERSATION TOPIC WE'RE GOING TO COVER DURING OUR FIXED HOLIDAY WILL BE THIS?
I WONDER IF CAT STEW IS ANY GOOD?
. NOT AT ALL

"Due to today's 89th Alice Fixed Holiday in Wonderland, everyone can enjoy a tea party bursting with joy in Alice's absence."




THIS YEAR'S SLOGAN IS:
"RUN! FLY! A GOLDEN METAL FOR A GLOWING SPIRIT!"
HMM, THE 10 AM OPENING CEREMONY INCLUDES... AN OPENING PARADE, THE ATHLETE'S OATH OF FAIR PLAY AND A SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

GAH
IT'S A SPORTS TOURNAMENT!?
AND SINGING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM? IS THERE EVEN A NATIONAL ANTHEM TO SING!?
AS USUAL, THIS PLACE GOES ALL OUT FOR SUCH TRIVIAL BULLSHIT..
THIS IS LIKE READING THE ABSOLUTE WORST PROGRAM..
SALUTE
ALRIGHT. IT WAS BETTER THAT I DIDN'T GET INVITED.
GRUMPIES
I'M TRULY GRATEFUL, THOUGH, I SUPPOSE THE GOLD METAL
WOULD BE WORTH SEEING, HUH?
HEH.
IT SERVES EVERYONE RIGHT
I HOPE YOU GET TRAMPLED BY THE GIANT BA... IN THE GIANT BALL ROLL AND CRY!

. SIGH ..
WHAT THE HELL AM I EVEN TALKING ABOUT. ?
WOO
CLATTER
CLINK
MY MAIN POINT IS, EVERY DAY IS SO IRRITATING. IT'S A CONSTANT BURDEN TO TALK TO THAT MANIAC AND THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO OTHER THAN FOLLOW HIM AROUND OBEDIENTLY WHILE HE'S CONSTANTLY AT MY SIDE, SAYING THINGS LIKE "I'LL SHOOT YOU" OR "I'LL KILL YOU"
IT'S FINE. I CAN FULLY ENJOY AN ELEGANT TEA TIME ALL BY MYSELF
CLINK
CLINK
CLA
TTER!

TICK
TOCK
TICK

SLAM
GAAAAAH, WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH THIS!?
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
PAMPER ME!
LOOK AFTER ME WITH ALL YOUR ENERGY!
DON'T IGNORE ME!!
THEY SAID I WAS WONDER-LAND'S ALICE, DIDN'T THEY!?
ding dong♪

ding dong♪
ding dong♪
HUH?
IF YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, YOUR FAIRY GODMOTHER WILL APPEAR AND ESCORT YOU TO THE CASTLE, YOU KNOW?
TODAY, NO ONE WANTS TO BE IN YOUR COMPANY
WHO COULD IT BE...?
ding dong♪
. BUT, AT ANY RATE
A PUMPKIN CARRIAGE ISN'T REALLY GOING TO APPEAR, IS IT?
HEH,
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
I'M DEFINITELY REFUSING SOMETHING LIKE THAT

IT'S BOTHERSOME, BUT I GUESS I'LL ALLOW FOR SOME COMPANY
CLICK
WITHOUT ME, THE STORY CAN'T ADVANCE AT ALL, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
CLICK
WHA——?

—— HUH?
Sigh.
... HEY, I'VE BEEN THINKING.
HATTER-SAN, ISN'T IT BETTER IF YOU STAYED BY ALICE'S SIDE?
YOU DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING JUST NOW?
WHO KNOWS.
CLOSED
THERE ARE LOTS OF UNKNOWN FACTORS, SO I WONDER IF YOU SHOULD REALLY BE RUNNING AWAY LIKE YOU'RE NOT INVOLVED?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S A FIXED HOLIDAY, IN THE END, WONDERLAND REVOLVES AROUND ALICE.

IF SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENED, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
THAT'S PRETTY IRRESPONSIBLE ISN'T IT? IT'LL BE TROUBLESOME FOR YOU IF ALICE ISN'T AROUND, WON'T IT, HATTER-SAN?
SO I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO GO BACK TO HELP HIM.
I DIDN'T HEAR ANY "GUNFIRE".
THAT'S TRUE.
WELL, WHEN IT'S TIME FOR THE FUNERAL, I'LL TIE YOUR TIE IN PLACE OF ALICE, SO YOU CAN RELAX
SLIDE
SLIDE
WELL, THINKING OF A MOURNER'S GREETING IS PRETTY TIRING
BANG
BOTH YOU AND HE WILL BE HEADED FOR THE CREMATORIUM TOGETHER.
REST ASSURED
CLICK
SLIDE
HOW THE HELL DO YOU KNOW THAT?
HM?
IT'S BECAUSE I'M AN EVEN BETTER STALKER THAN YOU, HATTER-SAN.

WHAT'S THE SUDDENLY APPEARING JACK'S PURPOSE?

SEPTEMBER 2012 ISSUE COMES OUT JULY 28TH!

FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Are You Alice?

by Ninomiya Ai (story) and Katagiri Ikumi (art)

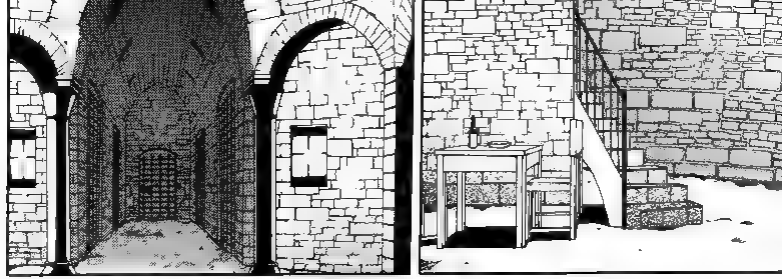
Are you Alice?
THE DAY HE WENT ASTRAY IN WONDERLAND
NDER LAND
chirp
chirp
THIS IS .
Welcome to Wonderland.

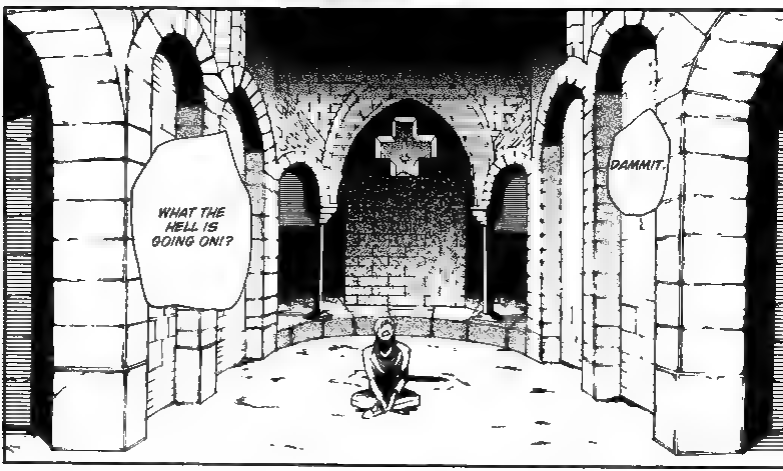
WHO AM I? THAT KIND OF THING IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ANSWER, ISN'T IT? THE RESIDENTS OF THIS COUNTRY HAVE NEVER CALLED ME BY A NAME
BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY,
WHO ARE YOU...?
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW YOUR NAME?
FROM TODAY ONWARDS, YOU ARE A RESIDENT OF WONDER..AND.
YOUR NAME IS THE KNAVE OF HEARTS.
MY NAME..
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? MY NAME ISN'T SOMETHING LIKE...
THE KNAVE OF HEARTS..?

I THREW AWAY YOUR FORMER NAME FROM LONG AGO FOR YOU.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU WISHED TO THROW THE WORLD AWAY, AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE HERE.
ONLY THOSE SORTS OF PEOPLE HAVE THE ABILITY TO ENTER INTO WONDERLAND.
KNAVE OF HEARTS,
YOU WERE ALSO ALWAYS THINKING THAT IT'D BE NICE TO CRUSH YOUR OWN WORLD, WEREN'T YOU?

Are you Alice?
It's overflowing, the desire concealed in his heart——.

TCH
DRIP
DRIP
?
DRIP
OW
IT
HURTS,
JANGLE
-UH




WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!?
DAMMIT.

WE..., I'D PREFER TO GET SOME MONEY AS OPPOSED TO SOME GLASS SLIPPERS...
JANGLE
IF YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, YOUR FAIRY GODMOTHER WILL APPEAR AND ESCORT YOU TO THE CASTLE, YOU KNOW?
TODAY, NO ONE WANTS TO BE IN YOUR COMPANY YOU DON'T EVEN NEED TO WORRY ABOUT SOMEONE AIMING FOR YOUR LIFE. SO ISN'T IT ALRIGHT TO SIMPLY PASS THE TIME ALONE AT YOUR LEISURE?

As expected, I couldn't rely on him for a second time!
That sucker
TAP.
TAP
!
TAP
HEYA.
RECENTLY, THE QUEEN'S REALLY STARTED TO LIKE PRETTY ***EXTREME PLAY***, HASN'T HE?

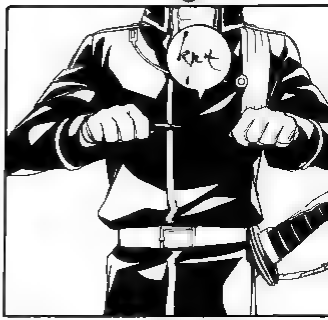
TAP.
...
TAP
TAP
His name is definitely... What was it?
YOU WERE WITH THE QUEEN.
I MEAN, YOU'RE.
RATTLE
Is she really that mad?
... SAY SOMETHING, ALREADY!

TAP.
TODAY WAS THE "ALICE FIXED HOLIDAY", WASN'T IT?
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THIS WAS AN ORDER FROM THE QUEEN OR NOT, BUT WHEN MY BODYGUARD FINDS OUT THAT I'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED AND CONFINED, HE WON'T JUST KEEP QUIET
YOU KNOW?
RUSTLE
I CAN'T KILL THE WHITE RABBIT.
I DIDN'T RECEIVE A NAME OR A RULE FROM HIM, EITHER.

YOU ALSO RECEIVED A NAME FROM THE WHITE RABBIT, RIGHT?
YEAH, PROBABLY.
HO-HOLD ON A MINUTE
N- No way.
Did the Queen find out,
or ..?
TH-THAT'S RIGHT. WHAT ABOUT THE DEAL? WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT MY DEAL WITH THE QUEEN!?
I-I'M DEFINITELY ALICE!
I DON'T HAVE THE SAME FAMILIAR FEELING OF AN ALICE AT ALL BUT THAT'S WHAT I AM. I'M CARRYING AROUND ALL THE TROUBLES, PRIDE AND PURPOSE OF AN ALICE, AREN'T I!?
OR, IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE!? IS YOUR BOSS REALLY THE TYPE OF UNUSUAL GUY WHO CARELESSLY BREAKS HIS CONTRACTS WITH PEOPLE? NO, I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT HE'S UNUSUAL!

IN ANY CASE,
AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE THAT I'M FINISHED HERE!

SCRIBBLE
...
ERR
WHA..?
HUH?


KN-K

RUSTLE

Hi there, Alice.☆
Have you been well?☆

Eh, no way.
Are you okay?
YEAH.
Right now I'm not feeling so great, though.
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT
It's a bit of a long story, but I can tell you the reason why.
NO THANKS.
AH
THAT REMINDS ME YOU CAN'T TALK.
I'm getting tired of that guy already.
SCRIBBLE SCRIBBLE
WHAT IS THAT QUEEN THINKING? EXPLAIN THAT CLEARLY.
Augh!
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHY DO I HAVE TO GO THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE? EXPLAIN THAT TO ME INSTEAD.

Wonderland's Alice, I'd like to use you in order to cancel my contract with His Majesty.
WHEN YOU SAY "THAT GUY"...
...YOU MEAN THE QUEEN OF HEARTS?
SCRIBBLE
SCRIBBLE
OH?
WELL, AREN'T YOU JUST FULL OF INTERESTING IDEAS?
RUSTLE
HUH?
EVEN THOUGH IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A FIXED HOLIDAY, IN THE END, I REALLY CAN'T BE LEFT ALONE.
...
WONDERLAND JUST COULDN'T DO WITHOUT ME, AFTER ALL. IT'S NOT A SITUATION WHERE THEY CAN JUST IGNORE ME.
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S ONLY NATURAL.
SCRIBBLE

Because the idiot Alice can't quickly kill the White Rabbit, I've been forced to live this rigid lifestyle for many years. Alice is truly bothersome. Alice is truly useless.
"SHE'S THE STEREOTYPICAL TYPE THAT DOESN'T KEEP AT SOMETHING LONG ENOUGH TO ACCOMPLISH IT."
WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
GYAAH——!

OW! THAT HURT, YOU IDIOT! DON'T FUCK WITH ME, YOU LITTLE PRICK!
SHUT UP—!
YOU COULD TALK NORMALLY, AFTER ALL!
YOU WERE JUST WASTING MY TIME. AND WHAT WAS WITH THAT "HI THERE, ALICE☆" BULLSHIT? YOU'RE THE ONE JUST FUCKING WITH ME!!

—GAH, DAMMIT!
I HAVE A CONTRACT WITH THE QUEEN TO NOT SAY MORE THAN 10 SYLLABLES FOR 10 YEARS!*
SOMETHING SO TRIVIAL ALREADY EXCEEDED 15 SYLLABLES! UWAAH, SHIT, WHAT SHOULD I DO!?
JUST NOW, I SAID
"OW, THAT HURT, YOU IDIOT. DON'T FUCK WITH ME, YOU LITTLE PRICK!"
AHHH, THAT'S RIGHT. IF I HADN'T SAID,
"OW" AND "YOU IDIOT"
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN OKAY! WHAT THE HELL WAS I THINKING?! I'M THE REAL IDIOT HERE!!
WELL, NOW YOU'VE EXCEEDED FAR MORE THAN 10.
More than three-fold right?

*-TN In Japanese, this is actually "10 characters," but I've changed it to "10 syllables" to work better in English. Also, I believe Jack means "more than 10 at one time," since he's obviously spoken to the Queen on other occasions. So his limit should have long been met anyway.

ALICE, THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT!!
NO, THAT WASN'T MY FAULT AT ALL
AH... IT'S ALREADY AT AN END... ALL MY GREAT EFFORTS THESE LAST TEN YEARS TO LIVE WITHOUT EVEN BEING ABLE TO SNEEZE NORMALLY ARE GOING DOWN THE DRAIN.
SO THAT I WOULDN'T INADVERTENTLY TALK IN MY SLEEP, I WRAPPED MY MOUTH WITH DUCT TAPE
AND SO I WOULDN'T INADVERTENTLY DO THINGS LIKE RECA... A FUNNY JOKE. I WAS ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT THE TIME MY GRANDMOTHER DIED AND THINGS LIKE THAT ALL MY EFFORTS... WASTED...
YOU REALLY LOVE TALKING, DON'T YOU...?

Are you Alice?

I MEAN, YOU'RE GOING TO GET REVENGE ON THE QUEEN, RIGHT?
IF YOU WORRY ABOUT EVERY LITTLE THING, THEN YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO GET ANYWHERE. THE ONLY THING YOU CAN DO IS TRY FOR REVENGE, RIGHT?
... I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE.
YEP, YEP.
THIS ALICE IS GOING TO GO OUT OF HIS WAY TO COOPERATE WITH YOU, SO CHEER UP A
LITTLE
CLICK
NOW I REMEMBER; THAT'S WHAT I NEEDED YOU FOR.
TCH
A PRISONER SHOULD BEHAVE.
ALICE
SIGH
THIS IS THE WORST ..
ABSOLUTE..Y NONE OF YOU GUYS CAN JUST REQUEST SOMETHING OF ME HONESTLY, CAN YOU?
I'M SICK TO DEATH OF THIS SAME PATTERN.

OF COURSE SINCE WITHOUT ME, THE STORY WON'T CONTINUE FORWARD
YOU'RE PRETTY COMPOSED AREN'T YOU? ARE YOU PERHAPS THINKING THAT AS ALICE, YOU CAN'T BE KILLED?
AH !
HMPH .. CAN'T RAISE A HAND?
HRG.
GAH.
EVERYONE IS ALWAYS SAYING SUCH ARROGANT SHIT WHEN THEY CAN'T RAISE A HAND AGAINST
PULL
I'M A TRAITOR, AREN'T I? DON'T CONFUSE ME WITH THOSE IDIOTS WHO ARE BOUND BY THE RULES.
NO ONE WILL WANT TO BE IN THE COMPANY OF ALICE, RIGHT? NO ONE IS COMING TO SAVE YOU. YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION YOU'RE IN, CAN'T YOU?
TODAY IS THE ALICE FIXED HOLIDAY

I'VE GAINED.
I'VE CHANGED.
SINCE I CAME TO WONDER-LAND ..
I DIDN'T EXPECT FOR SOMEONE TO COME AND SAVE ME FROM THE START..
CHE—
SHUT UP!
CLI
CK
THE ABILITY TO PROTECT MYSELF!
.. AH, SHOOT. I'M OUT OF BULLETS.
CLICK
CLICK

. ER,
THERE'S ONLY THAT LEFT.
. WELL?
...
...
FOR THE TIME BEING, YOU SHOULDN'T TRY USING FORCE. SO STOP IT.
YOU WANT TO MAKE A DEAL WITH ME, RIGHT? SINCE I'M SUCH A NICE ALICE, I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR STORY.
THE DEAL ON HIS MIND IS ?
YOU REALLY ARE SELF-CENTERED..
IT'S BECAUSE I'M ALICE!

FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Are You Alice?

by Ninomiya Ai (story) and Katagiri Ikumi (art)

GRIN
GRIN
THAT'S THE RULE GIVEN TO THE KNAVE OF HEARTS.
WELL, IT'S A "BODYGUARD" ROLE, SO TO SPEAK
THE AIDE OF THE QUEEN OF HEARTS? ME?
THE COMPLETELY CLUELESS JACK
IN THE QUEEN'S BATHROOM AND IN HER BEDROOM
In other words, I'll be by the Queen's side, protecting her day and night
THE QUEEN OF HEARTS' AIDE . . . THE BODYGUARD TO THE QUEEN OF HEARTS.
TAP

AND IN HER SECRET PLACE, TOO!
BO
OH, I SEE.
YOU'RE MY FIRST TRUMP?
OM

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO GO ANYWHERE.
FROM NOW ON, THIS IS WHERE YOU BELONG.
GOHAAH!
NAH, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, AFTER AL- I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I HAVE SOME URGENT BUSINESS, SO I'LL BE GO!-
YOU'RE CERTAINLY THE KNAVE OF HEARTS.
... WHICH MEANS THERE ARE STILL SO MORE TO GO.
IT SEEMS THAT THE QUEEN OF HEARTS NEEDS 5! BODYGUARDS.
SORRY, BUT I DON'T TAKE ANY JOY IN BEING STALKED BY MEN.
IT SEEMS WE STILL HAVE SOME TIME TO PASS BEFORE I HAVE A FULL SET OF CARDS.
I ASKED FOR ALL MY TRUMP SOLDIERS EXCEPT YOU, WHO WAS MISTAKENLY EMPLOYED, TO BE THE TYPE OF WOMEN I LIKE
EMPLO-YED?
MISTAKENLY
HAH-

DON'T TALK.
THE ONLY THING LEFT TO DO IS SAY THAT I'M NOT ACCEPTING THIS JOB AND SO YOU CAN DISMISS ME FROM DU
S-SO, THEN OUR INTERESTS MATCH.
I ALSO DON'T HAVE ANY INTEREST IN A MALE QUEEN'S SECRET PLACE.
OH
HAHA...
I FEEL EXACTLY THE SAME WAY..
HAH!?
ARE YOU DEAF?
IN WONDERLAND, ONE CAN'T DISOBEY NEITHER THE GAME'S RULES NOR THE QUEEN'S ORDERS.

KNAVE OF HEARTS.

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Chapter.40

NO WAY.
TEARS ARE STARTING TO FLOW. .
WHEN I REMEMBER IT, I START TO CRY AS WELL...
That guy wasn't the White Rabbit. He was an impostor, wasn't he?
HMM?
GYAAAH!
YOU DUMB-ASS!!!
TEARS AREN'T GOING TO WASH AWAY THIS UNREASONABLE SITUATION!
YOU DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO SIT AROUND CRYING, DO YOU!?
ALICE, YOU.
WOW-

I'LL HELP YOU OUT.
WE'LL DEFINITELY MAKE THE QUEEN PAY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE
HEH?
THE WEIRD RULES IN WONDERLAND PISS ME OFF, TOO.
I'M GOING TO BRING EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO CAST OUT ALICE A TON OF PAIN.
. NO, I WAS SAYING THAT YOU WERE MY PRISONER WHILE I WAS TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH MY GOAL, BUT ..
TODAY THERE'S A PARTY IN WHICH EVERY RESIDENT OF THE COUNTRY PARTICIPATES, HOSTED BY THE QUEEN.
SO WE'RE IN THE QUEEN'S CASTLE...?
IT SEEMS THE PARTY HAS STARTED
THE PARTY?
WHAT'S THAT?

WOW, YOU'RE REALLY AWESOME ARE YOU A WIZARD?
Alice
Fixed
Holiday

BA DNG
BA DNG BA NG
IF YOU HATE IT SO MUCH, THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST WAITED AT HOME LIKE A GOOD BOY.
I HAVE A FEEL-NG THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER, TOO
RIGHT?
AH, I KNEW YOU WEREN'T GOING TO TRY
I CAN'T BE BOTHERED TO MAKE THAT MUCH OF AN EFFORT.
YOU REALLY AREN'T GONNA TRY, HUH?
SINCE YOU'RE PARTICIPATING, YOU MUST AT LEAST AIM FOR THE GOLD MEDAL.
HATTER-SAN, SKIPPING OUT IS NO GOOD!
THE MORE YOU READ IT, THE WORSE THIS PROGRAM GETS.

I, THE KNAVE OF HEARTS, HAVE TAKEN WONDERLAND'S ALICE CAPTIVE—!
IF YOU WANT ME TO SPARE HIS LIFE, THEN YOU'LL LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY OBEDIENTLY!
OH, NO. HELP ME. (MONOTONE)
. . . I DON'T SEE ANYTHING
IT'S ALICE-CHAN.
HUH?
HA HA HA HA HA!
SHUT UP AND LISTEN, YOU IM-BECILES!
RABBLE
RABBLE

OKAY.
UMMMMMM.
LIKE I HAD BEEN SAYING...
Stop talking about useless shit and just follow my script! Okay! Keep going.
whisper
Shut up, it's fine! The first impression is incredibly important!
whisper
Um Alice as expected calling them "imbeciles" was going a little too far, don't you think?
whisper
ANYWAY, IF YOU WANT ALICE BACK, THEN COMPLY WITH MY DEMANDS, QUEEN OF HEARTS!
HUH?
... WHERE'S HIS MAJESTY?
RIGHT NOW HE'S CHANGING OUTFITS.

YEAH. ACCORDING TO THE PROGRAM, HE CHANGES FIVE TIMES DURING THE PARTY.
ohanaha. ?
THAT'S TOTALLY UNNECESSARY!
YOU GUYS REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT THE HELL IT MEANS TO PARTY! YOU DON'T NEED TO AIM FOR A GOLD MEDAL!
HM, NO ONE HAS ANY INTEREST IN THE GOLD MEDAL, HUH? HOW UNEXPECTED.
It's like a toy to a cat. I wouldn't mind if you gave it to me.
IGNORING IT ALL.
AH.
AH.
. . TCH
LONG TIME NO SEE, ALICE-CHAN.
HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?

A-ANYWAY! HURRY UP AND BRING OUT THE QUEEN OF HEARTS!
WHAAAT?!
FROM NOW, LET A PARTY WHERE THE SUBORDINATES TAKE OVER AND MAKE YOU TREMBLE IN FEAR BEGIN!
OH, I WAS IGNORED.
HOLD ON A SECOND, CALM DOWN, ALICE!
IT'S FINE SO JUST SHUT UP ALREADY!!
YOU SHOULD ACT A LITTLE MORE LIKE A PRISONER.
O-OKAY
DOES HE NEED SAVING?
sigh
HM?
BEING UP THERE IS USELESS

JANGLE
SO YOU FINALLY CAME, HATTER!
HEH, WHAT IS IT?
It's all because you took a vacation that Alice has gotten into such an awful mess.
ISN'T THAT JUST UNFOR-TUNATE!
WHAT'S UNFORTUNATE IS THAT YOUR BRAIN IS SO SMALL.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?
NO, YOU CAN'T ASK WHAT I'M DOING.
I'M A PRISONER, RIGHT?
AH, PLAYING MAKE BELIEVE.
DON'T SAY IT LIKE THAT!
WELL IT DOESN'T MATTER EITHER WAY, BUT YOU'RE IN THE WAY, SO HURRY UP AND GO HOME
IF YOU'RE HERE, THEN THE FIXED HOLIDAY HAS NO MEANING
TELLING ME TO GO HOME...?
DO YOU UNDER-STAND THIS AT ALL!?
ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, ALICE IS IN A TOUGH SPOT, HERE!
RISK YOUR NECK AND COME SAVE ME, IDIOT! SUGAR GUZZLER!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?

URGH...
YOU SAID YOU'D PROTECT YOURSELF, RIGHT? YOU SAID YOU COULDN'T RELY ON ME, RIGHT?
AND IT'D BE A VIOLATION OF THE RULES FOR ME TO HELP YOU, WOULDN'T IT?
GOOD LUCK
HEY!
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING!? SAVE ME!!
DO YOU THINK THIS IS A SITUATION WHERE YOU CAN SIT BACK AND DRINK TEA, HATTER?!
You are absurdly unpopular
SHUT UP! DON'T PITY ME!
CLATTER
HATTER-SAN, FOR WHAT REASON DID YOU COME, IN THE END?
REVENGE.
SO THAT'S ALL YOU CAME OUT FOR.
BUT, I THINK YOU SHOULD SAVE HIM AFTER ALL
HIS MAJESTY'S DOG CAN'T KILL ALICE, YOU KNOW.

SWOO
SH
NO, I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT ALICE.
AND!
AS FOR YOU!
YOUR ABILITIES AS A BAD GUY ARE SO HORRIBLY LACKING THAT NOW EVERYTHING'S TURNED OUT WRONG!
AND DO YOU THINK YOU CAN GET REVENGE WITH SUCH HALF-BAKED PREPAREDNESS!?
TELL ME WHAT THE HELL YOU WERE THINKING! YOU DUMB BASTARD!
AHHH, I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY, GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE. NEXT TIME I'LL DEFINITELY DO IT RIGHT!!
WHICH OF THEM IS THE BAD GUY?
I WONDER.
.. IT CAN'T BE HELPED, THEN.

RABBLE
RABBLE
WOULD YOU HELP ME OUT?
GYO?
HEY,
DON'T CLING TO IT GYO!
Kya ha ha!
FINE.
ALSO WHAT'S WITH YOU DEMANDING SOMEONE'S HELP?
ANYWAY, EVERYTHING'S FINE AS LONG AS I GET TO TALK WITH HIS MAJESTY.
DON'T GO MAKING IT INTO A BIG AFFAIR!
whisper
whisper
I MEAN, I FIGURE THAT NOW WOULD BE THE BEST CHANCE IF YOU'RE AIMING FOR THE QUEEN'S LIFE, RIGHT?
HM?
WAS I EVER IN DANGER OF GETTING KILLED!?
I MEAN, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY. YOU'RE NOT MY ENEMY, SO IT'S NOT LIKE THE HATTER CAN KILL YOU OR ANYTHING.

Hey, Alice.
WHAT DID Y
YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THINKING OF A VILLAIN'S ACTIONS WHEN YOU'RE IN THE HERO'S ROLE.
DOESN'T THAT MAKE YOU AN INCREDIBLY HORRIBLE GUY FOR THINKING THAT ?
WE COULD JUST GO TO HIM DIRECTLY
THAT GUY IS CHANGING RIGHT NOW, ISN'T HE?
HM
?.
THUD
THUD

We have you completely surrounded——
Stop this futile struggle and come out quietly.
I'M NOT OKAY.
Is the captive okay?
WHY ARE YOU TALKING TO ME!?
THE CAPTIVE IS ME! ME!!
DON'T ANSWER HIM!
HUH? MY PARENTS?
You're making your parents cry——
What are you planning to do here?

LIES!!
It's me, your papa!
IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN FILLETED AND SOLD WHOLESALE THREE TIMES.
After seeing a cut as a header and hearing "no" at the end of a sentence.
HUH? WHAT'S THE MATTER?
IS IT NOT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE THE FATHER?
.. HAS HE STRAYED FROM THE PLAN?
THAT TYPE OF FATHER WOULD BE BETTER OFF DEAD!
HE'S SURELY YOUR SON.
BUT WE..L, THIS IS A..L SO FITTING. A BRAT RAISED BY YOU WOULD DEFINITE..Y FALL INTO DELINQUENCY
WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS TOO CLICHE.
THAT'S WEIRD LETTING THE CRIMINAL SEE HIS PARENTS IS A STANDARD PROCEDURE IN NEGOTIATIONS.
AHHH
AHHH

NO, IT'S BECAUSE YOU HAVE SOME SERIOUS PROBLEMS!
YOU BOTH RUB MY NERVES THE WRONG WAY, SO IT MUST BE GENETIC.
HEY, YOU BASTARD, DON'T FUCK WITH ME! ARE YOU SAYING THAT GUY IS THE SAME AS ME!?
SHOCK
... ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY THAT I'M WORSE THAN THIS GUY?
IF THE ONLY OTHER OPTION WAS INHERITING YOUR GENES, THEN I'D RATHER BE RAISED BY A CAT!
BANG
WHOA!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE PUT OUT TO WASH WITH THE LAUNDRY...
I'M SAYING YOU'RE WORSE THAN HE IS. ALICE HAS COMPLETELY REJECTED YOU, HATTER.

THAT'S DANGEROUS! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING!? WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF YOU HAD SHOT ME!?
GULP
Crumble
TCH
It's fine if you talk bad about me as yourself.
Shut up. You were talking as if you were Alice, weren't you!?
But I won't let you talk bad about me as Alice!
RAGE

BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
WHAT THE HELL HAVE YOU BEEN DOING SINCE EARLIER!?
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT IT TURNED OUT THIS WAY, ALICE!!
YOUR FAULT!!!
THAT'S YOUR REASON!? I DON'T GET YOU AT ALL!
SHIT, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON BUT IT SEEMS I STEPPED ON A LAND MINE!
SHUT UP! IT'S MY FAULT AGAIN!? NO, IT'S NOT. THIS TIME IT'S...
A7AAAAAAH!
HMM. IT SEEMS MY PLAN TURNED OUT TO BE A DISASTER. NOW I'M WONDERING WHO THE REAL BAD GUY HERE IS...?
HUH? IT WAS ME?
twitch
twitch
YOU ARE, IDIOT CAT. FROM THE BEGINNING, EVERYTHING HAS BEEN YOUR FAULT! SO SET AN EXAMPLE FOR EVERYONE AND DIE!
BANG
GYO!!!

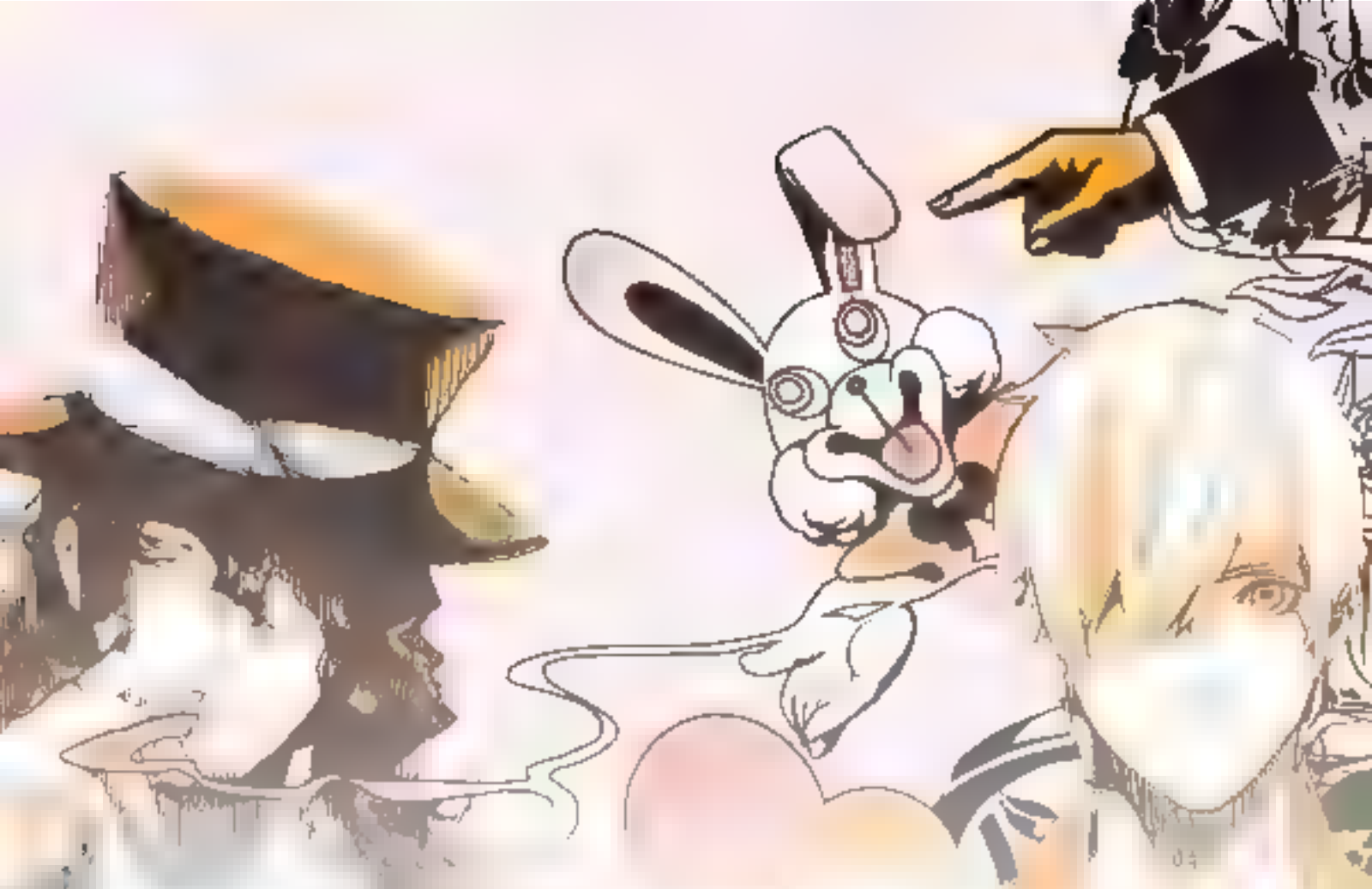
SORRY, ALICE-CHAN. IT'S MY FAULT.
BANG
TCH
WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN IF YOU APOLOGIZE LIKE THAT..?
ALICE! FORGET THAT AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE HATTER!
AHHHH, DAMMIT. IT CAN'T BE HELPED!
MY BAD! ALICE LOVES YOU, HATTER-SAN!
I DON'T ACCEPT YOU AT ALL, BUT ALICE WILL ALWAYS WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS!
ALICE WANTS TO SEE YOUR SMILING FACE, HATTER-SAN——!

THAT ACTUALLY WORKED!?
ALRIGHT, THEN.
I'M NOT SURE WHAT TO THINK
WEL... EVERYTHING TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT.
SLUMP
... I MEAN,
I SERIOUSLY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE WAY HE THINKS AT ALL...
sigh
I WISH I COULD START OVER FROM THE BEGINNING.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU GUYS SAY, I'M THE CAPTIVE, HERE!
YOU NEED TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO MY NEE——
GAH!!
GRAB

GRIND
——HEY, YOU...
I'M YOUR ALLY, AREN'T I!?
DON'T FUCK WITH ME...
——!?
WE'RE STARTING OVER FROM THE BEGINNING, RIGHT?
IF SO, THEN I'M YOUR ENEMY, ALICE.
HATTER-SAN.
DON'T ASK ME.
CHE.
IS THAT SO...!?

DUN
DUN
DUN
GYO?
EVERYONE, SILENCE PLEASE.
YOU MAY NOW SEE HIS MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

... HMPH.
HIS TIMING IS GOOD. RIGHT AS THE FARCE COMES TO AN END...
HAVE YOU FINALLY SHOWN YOURSELF...
QUEEN OF HEARTS?
JACK HAS AN AUDIENCE WITH THE QUEEN!
THE NOVEMBER ISSUE COMES OUT SEPTEMBER 28TH



FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Are You Alice?

by Ninomiya Ai (story) and Katagiri Ikumi (art)

SCANNING

TRANSLATING

PROOFREADING

CLEANING

TYPESETTING

QUALITY CHECKING

HAVE YOU FINALLY SHOWN YOURSELF...

QUEEN OF HEARTS?

...HMPH.

HIS TIMING S GOOD. RIGHT AS THE FARCE COMES TO AN END.

flutter

PREPARATIONS FOR THE QUEEN ARE IN ORDER!

SWISH

SWISH

Are you Alice?

KYAAAAAH!
UWAH!

I...
can't...
Breathe... at all!!
HEY, AS I THOUGHT, THIS CORSET DOESN'T FIT ME.
SINCE THE WAIST L NE S VERY IMPORTANT.
THAT'S HOW THE CORSET SHOULD BE, YOUR MAJESTY.
MEH?
AH, SORRY. HOLD ON.
IF SO, THEN I GUESS IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
I SEE. THE WAIST LINE?
THAT DOESN'T MATTER AT ALL, DAMMIT!

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glare

CHATTER

CHATTER

TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK

Ah, geez! Why is it when I finally get a dramatic silence that the timing is all wrong? Everything is getting in the way. Is that my destiny? There's no way it should be. This is all because of stepping foot into Wonderland and becoming the Knave of Hearts.

WHAT!?

—— JACK.

76 SYLLABLES.

UH-OH.

I'LL LET YOUR SLIP-UP SLIDE THIS TIME.

SO?

WHO

THE

HELL

GAVE YOU PERMISSION TO SPEAK?

... IS THAT SO? ALICE, YOU INSTIGATED THIS?

YES, I'M SO SORRY EVERYTHING IS ALICE'S FAULT ALL ALICE.

I DIDN'T DO A DAMN THING! WHY THE HELL IS EVERYONE TREATING ME LIKE THE BAD GUY!?

I CAN HEAR YOU, YOU KNOW!?

HEH. I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING IT STILL DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT I'M ALICE, RIGHT?

IF SO, THEN I SHOULDN'T BOTHER LEARNING TOO MUCH GENERAL KNOWLEDGE STUFF. IT TAKES ALL MY EFFORTS JUST TO REMEMBER THE RULES GIVEN TO ME

...

WELL, EITHER WAY, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT YOU DISOBEYED THE RULES.

IT'S UNFORGIVABLE FOR YOU TO BECOME THE STAR DURING THE ALICE FIXED HOLIDAY, ALICE. DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT THE RESIDENTS' HOLIDAY?

HMPH... YOU NEVER CHANGE, SELF-CENTERED ALICE.

... I'LL LISTEN TO YOUR DEMANDS SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT?

IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME; I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING RIGHT NOW.

THE ONE WHO WANTS TO TALK TO YOU IS THE KNAVE OF HEARTS.

SPEAK.

—— JACK.

THIS GUY WANTS YOU TO FIRE HIM.

... I WANT...

JEEZ, I'M SO FED UP WITH THIS.

I WANT YOU TO END THIS ABSURD CONTRACT WE HAVE.

RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW,

... YOU ARE

YOU ARE ALMOST THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF THE BEAUTIFUL CARD WHO WOULD SERVE BY MY SIDE, THINK ONLY OF ME AND FOLLOW MY ORDERS FAITHFULLY THAT I'D HOPED FOR.

CERTAINLY JUST A NORMAL HUMAN WHO SHOULDN'T HAVE COME TO WONDERLAND.

I THINK IT'S INEXCUSABLE THAT THE WHITE RABBIT "MISTAKENLY" BROUGHT YOU HERE.

NO ONE KNOWS HOW TO GET BACK A NAME ONCE IT'S BEEN TOSSED ASIDE.

HOWEVER, THE WHITE RABBIT ALREADY THREW AWAY YOUR REAL NAME, KNAVE OF HEARTS.

"LOOKING-GLASS LAND."

LOOKING-GLASS

LAND?

HM?

!

... FROM THE INFORMANT?

I'M A PRETTY CAUTIOUS GUY.

SORRY,

drip

drip

drip

drip

Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There

The land to which both
Regrets and Names are thrown away

New Name Issuance
Name Reissuance

Tweedle

...

LOOKING-GLASS

...AND...

SO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT, KNAVE OF HEARTS?

. I SEE.

WHILE SERVING YOU THESE 10 YEARS... I'VE COME TO SEE EVERYTH NG ABOUT THE JOBS YOU PERFORM.

?

I KNOW MANY TH NGS.

CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, QUEEN OF HEARTS?

HONESTLY, I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE IT. AND THAT'S WHY I WENT THROUGH THE WASTED EFFORT OF... TRYING TO HIDE YOU FROM MY FIELD OF VISION.

THAT'S WHY YOU WORE THE EYEPATCH ...?

AND YET, MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE LIVING IN WONDERLAND...

YOU CLAIM TO HATE THE COLOR RED MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE.

YOU ARE... A LIAR.

... YOU ARE COVERED IN BLOOD.

...

JACK...

INTEND TO DO ANYTHING I CAN POSSIBLY DO WITH ALL MY MIGHT, EVEN THOUGH I WAS BROUGHT HERE MISTAKENLY...

AND THAT'S WHY I ALSO

Are you Alice?

THEN WHY CAN'T I BE DISPATCHED OVER THERE, INSTEAD!?

... HAH?
Surely Looking Glass Land has a cute Female Queen suitable For my tastes. And even though she's mild-mannered, one day she'd race to convey her Feelings to her servant while on the terrace under the night sky. And she'd look up to me in admiration with teary eyes For many different reasons.
IF I CAN GO THERE, I CAN GET AWAY FROM THE QUEEN OF HEARTS WHO HAS SUCH A SHITTY DISPOSITION AND SHED THE MASOCHISTIC NATURE THAT WAS TRAINED INTO ME. PLUS, I CAN BECOME A SUPERMAN ALL WHILE BEING CONTROLLED BY A CUTE LADY....
HATTER.
YES?

BASH

GYAAH

BANG

SHOOT HIM.

FREE, YOU SAY...?

YOU'RE FREE.

ALICE,

UWAH...

CRASH

TUC TUC

"YOU WERE USELESS TO ME. I DON'T NEED YOU ANYMORE, HURRY UP AND GO HOME, IDIOT.

P S
THIS IS THE KEY TO THE HANDCUFFS.

HM...?

IS THAT SO...?
faints
XW+E-$ ~~~~.?
IF YOU TALK ANY MORE THAN THIS, I'LL BEHEAD YOU AND MOUNT YOUR HEAD ON A PIKE
URGH
ST
SO SORRY FOR BEING USELESS.
OMP
CHEER

HUH?

WELL, IN ANY CASE, IT SEEMS LIKE EVERYTHING HAS BEEN SETTLED NOW. ISN'T THAT GREAT, HATTER-SAN?

CLATTER

AHHHH FUCK —— DAMMIT —— ALL OF THIS SUCKS ——

ARE THERE REALLY VICTIMS SOMEWHERE IN THE WORLD THAT DON'T GET PAMPERED LIKE THIS?

NO ONE EVEN CHEERS FOR THE HOSTAGE AFTER HIS RELEASE.

GEEZ, WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH THIS?

I KEEP SAYING THAT IT WASN'T MY FAULT.

AND ANYWAY, YOU DIDN'T EVEN DO ANYTHING TH S TIME.

BECAUSE OF YOU, I WASN'T ABLE TO TAKE A DECENT BREAK.

HM.

THAT'S MY LINE.

drag

YANK

HUH?

BESIDES, F YOU WANT TO HAVE AN ENJOYABLE BREAK, YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED AT HOME FROM THE START.

YOU'RE WONDERLAND'S NUMBER ONE MOST EXPERIENCED NDOOR——

YOUR TIE IS MESSED UP.

... HEY, WANNA HEAR SOMETH NG GOOD?

YOU HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR APPEARANCE. DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTH NG ABOUT A BRITISH GENTLEMAN'S ETIQUETTE?

YOU'VE REALLY BECOME SELF-CENTERED, HAVEN'T YOU...?

YOU WERE DECEVED BY THE QUEEN. NOW ISN'T THE TIME TO FORGET ABOUT ALICE AND TAKE A BREAK IT SERVES YOU RIGHT!

WHAT KIND OF DUMBASS WEARS SOMETHING LIKE THAT WHEN THEY ARE TRYING TO RELAX?

SILENCE

YOU TRULY ARE A COMPLETELY HELPLESS TRUMP CARD.

... CONTINUE TO HOLD THAT GRUDGE AGAINST ME.

THE KNAVE OF HEARTS.

THE ONLY CARD THAT CAN LOP OFF THE QUEEN OF HEARTS' HEAD ONCE THE QUEEN HAS THROWN AWAY EVERYTHING AND RUN AWAY FROM THE GAME... IS

You claim to hate the color red more than anyone else. And yet, more than anyone else living in Wonderland, you are covered in blood.

You are... a liar.

YOU DEFINITELY AREN'T CUT OUT TO BE A BAD GUY.

SO I HAVE YET TO DEEM YOUR EFFORTS ACCEPTABLE...

I HATE WONDER-LAND!

BINDING PEOPLE WITH RULES ANY WAY YOU PLEASE!

DON'T FUCK WITH ME!

... WELL,

COULD YOU DELIVER A MESSAGE TO MY CUTE PET?

TIMES WHEN I WANT TO RUN AWAY...

THERE ARE CERTAINLY

THE ONE SETTING WONDERLAND IN MOTION IS NOT I.

IT'S BEYOND MY POWER TO CONTINUE OR EVEN STOP THE STORY.

BUT EVEN IF I DON'T CONCERN MYSELF WITH IT, SOON THE GAME TO KILL THE WHITE RABBIT WILL COME TO AN END.

THIS TIME YOU'LL KILL THE WHITE RABBIT, WON'T YOU?

RIGHT, ALICE?

AND EVERYTHING WILL END. WHEN THAT HAPPENS, I WON'T MIND GETTING KILLED BY YOU...

... OF COURSE, THAT'S JUST A LIE.

LOOKING-GLASS LAND.

... IT WAS NOTHING.

NO.

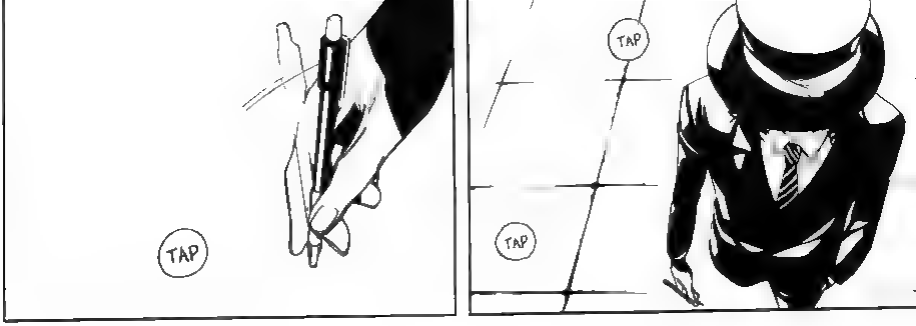
HM? WHAT'D YOU SAY?

LOOKING-GLASS LAND...?

LOOKING-GLASS LAND...

LOOKING-GLASS LAND IS FULL OF DREAMS.

LOOKING-GLASS LAND IS FULL OF REGRETS.



Through the Looking-Glass, and What Alice Found There

Alice in Looking Glass Land.
THE NEW KEYWORD IS "LOOKING-GLASS LAND". WHAT THINGS ARE THERE...?
ZERO SUM
THE DECEMBER ISSUE COMES OUT OCTOBER 27TH!

FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Are You Alice?

by Ninomiya Ai (story) and Katagiri Ikumi (art)

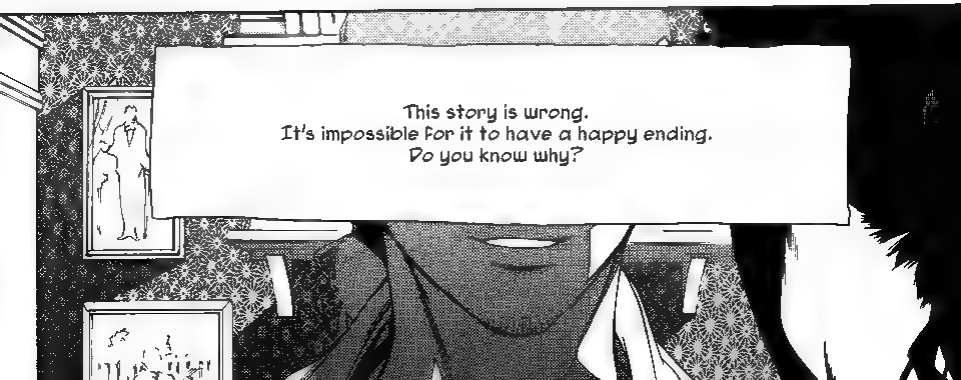
My story really is boring.
GONG
GONG
GONG
GONG
Are you Alice?

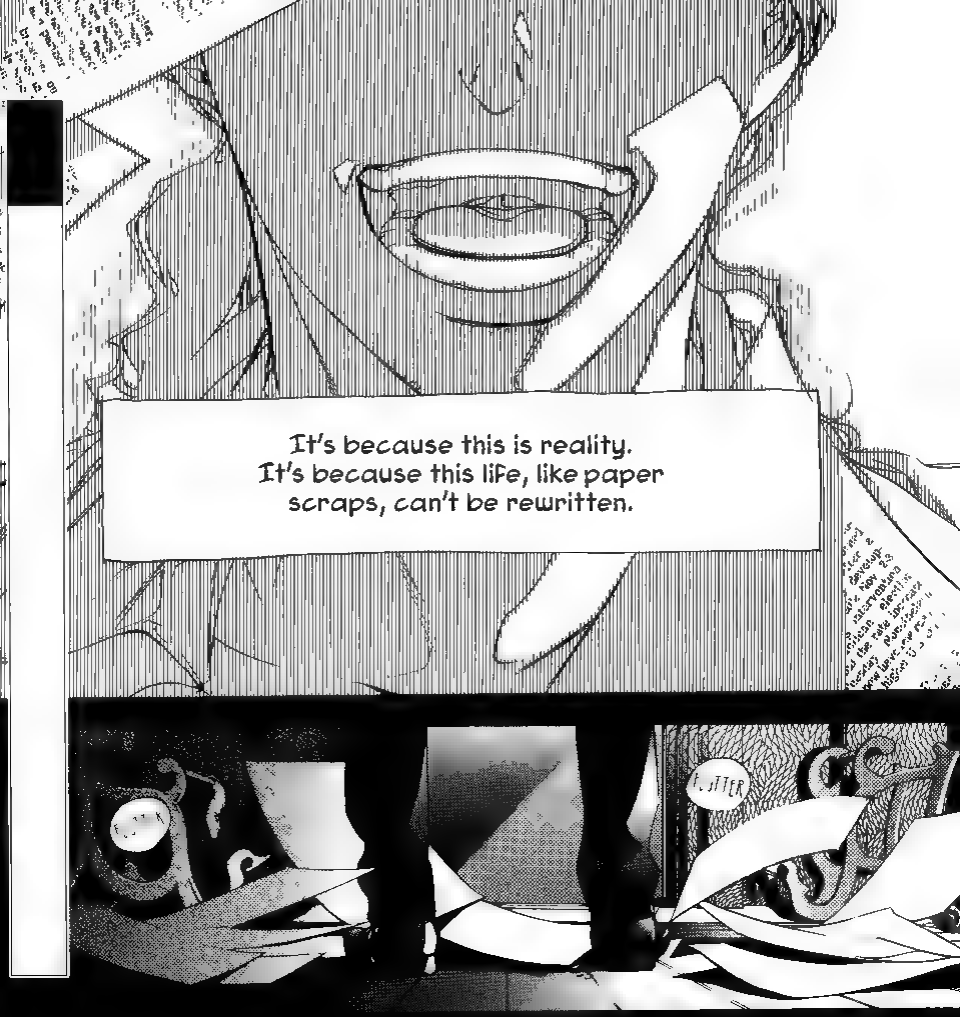
Protect Alice?
Me?
Don't say such foolish things.
If it could all be resolved with such simplistic words,
there would be no need for the "story".

—— That's right.
For example, the residents of this fairy tale can only
take the actions which have been chosen parallel to the
scenes which have been composed in Wonderland.

Only I could protect Alice.
It's fine to assert that.

If I existed in a practical world,
I wouldn't be moved by you.
I wanted Alice to be happy.
However...





If so,
someone tell me.
What the hell am I claiming to protect?
I need to for once think about
why I want to give Alice
an unattainable happiness.

That's why I have to finish this story with my own hands
Everything 's going too slowly
I am going to complete... Alice's story.
CRUNCH
... YOUR STORY IS BORING...
CAN YOU SPEAK ABOUT NOTHING MORE THAN ILLUSIONS?
—— LEWIS CARROLL.

SENSEI...?
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
THE NAP THEORY IS MOST LIKELY...
MEOW
OR IS HE TAKING A NAP?
...
I WONDER IF HE'S BUSY ?
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
JEEZ! YOU PROMISED YOU'D LISTEN TO MY STORIES TODAY~
SENSEI...?

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WHEN I WAS INJURED AND COULDN'T MOVE, HE WOULD NOISILY PREACH AT ME EVERY SINGLE DAY, BUT NOW HE'S JUST LOCKED HIMSELF UP IN HIS ROOM.
UGH
... HAAAH. WHAT THE HELL IS UP WITH THAT. .?
TOCK
TICK
TOCK
TICK
BO
OM
THOUGH I'M ALREADY DAMN USED TO THAT!
YOU'RE SERIOUSLY THE TYPE OF GUY I CAN'T FIGURE OUT.
TAP
TICK
TOCK
I'm sorry.

I had that mysterious dream again...

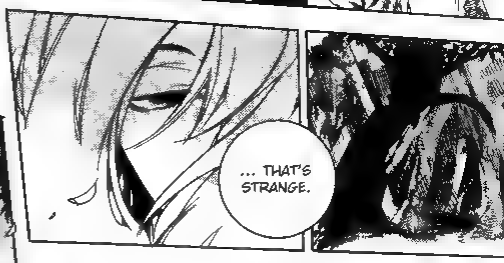
THE THINGS I WANT TO KNOW DON'T FALL UNDER THOSE FAIRY TALE CIRCUMSTANCES. INSTEAD....
SHARING A NAME? ISN'T THAT KIND OF A STUPID NOTION?
ME, WITHOUT A NAME, AND A SISTER WHO LENT ME HERS.
—— Why can't I remember?
—— Why did I kill Alice?

I DON'T WANT TO DISAPPEAR...
"AGAIN"...
BUT...
I WONDER
WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO ME WHEN I DON'T HAVE A NAME ANYMORE
I WONDER...
IF I GIVE HER BACK HER NAME,
WILL I BE ABLE TO REMEMBER EVERYTHING...?

I killed Alice.
I don't know the reason why.
I've probably forgotten.
Along with my own name.

Therefore, I have to give this name back to Alice.
Since it was surely something I stole.
And even if I possess this name, it has no meaning for me.
...
—— Because Alice is my everything.

——DINAH.



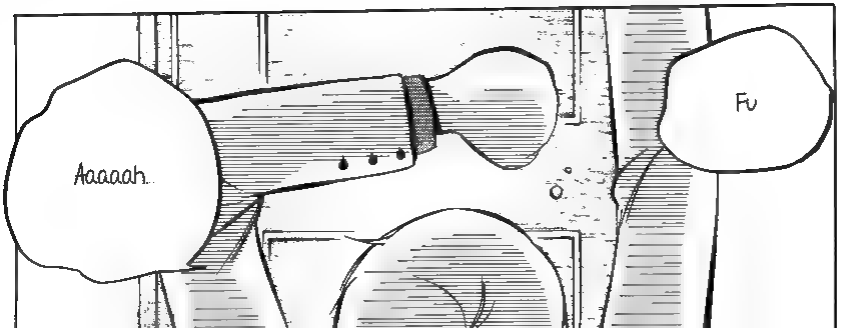
I THOUGHT I HAD THROWN AWAY MY "NAME" COMPLETELY.

SWOOP
OH, NO!
ALRIGHT!

splish
YOUR MAJESTY ...?

DRIP
splt
OH, I SEE...
THAT GUY HAS BECOME ABLE TO WRITE THE STORY, HUH?

YOU'RE GOING TO GET RECOGNIZED, YOU KNOW?
IS IT
EVEN BY THAT FAKE ALICE IN WONDERLAND.
OKAY
FOR US TO NOTICE YOU?


Aaaaah.
Fu

THAT HURTS, HATTER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

CLICK

GAAH!

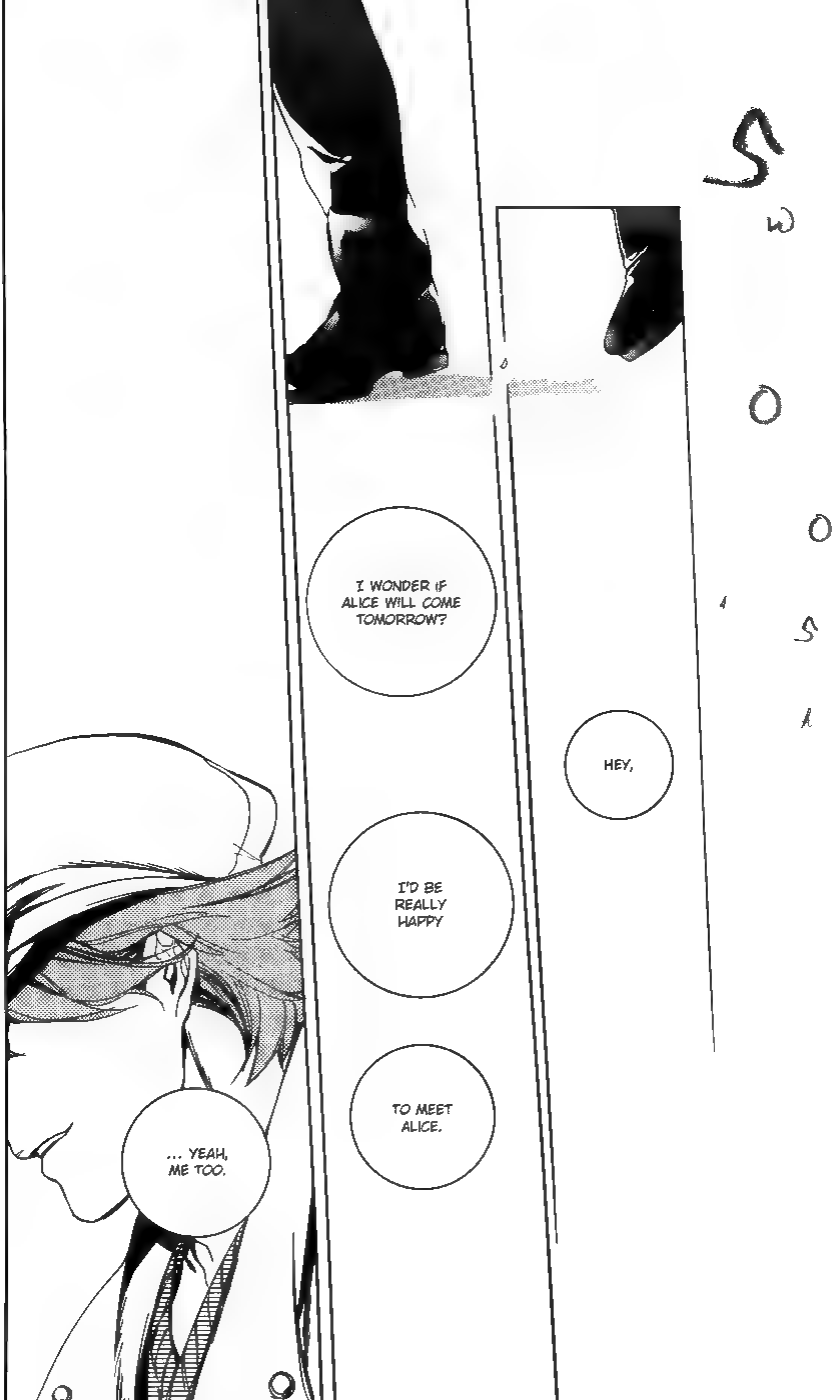
DON'T GO TO SLEEP WHILE LEAN NG AGAINST DOORS.

... YOUR INJURIES ARE ALL BETTER NOW, AREN'T THEY?

YOU'RE USED TO IT ALREADY, RIGHT?
SHOULD I GET USED TO IT!?
IF YOU JUST DEAL WITH THE AMAZING ALICE WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT, THEN——
AH, H-HOLD ON A SECOND, HATTER! YOU IGNORE ME FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS AND THEN SUDDENLY SPRING THIS ON ME!?
NO THANKS TO YOU! ESPECIALLY SINCE YOU GAVE ME SKULL FRACTURES JUST NOW!
THEN THERE'S NO PROBLEM. I'M GIVING YOU THREE MINUTES TO GET READY.
BAM
TCH.
AHH, YOU WAIT RIGHT HERE! DON'T YOU DARE LEAVE WITHOUT ME!
2 MINUTES AND 40 SECONDS LEFT
OI, HATTER! ARE YOU LISTENING!?
AND YOU ALWAYS GET SUPER ANNOYING WHENEVER IT'S THE 6 O'CLOCK TEA TIME!
BY THE WAY, IF YOU COULD HEAR ME, THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE ANSWERED!
THUD
WHAT? WE DON'T HAVE TIME.
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE USED TO IT, SO I'M GOING TO ASK...
... HEY.

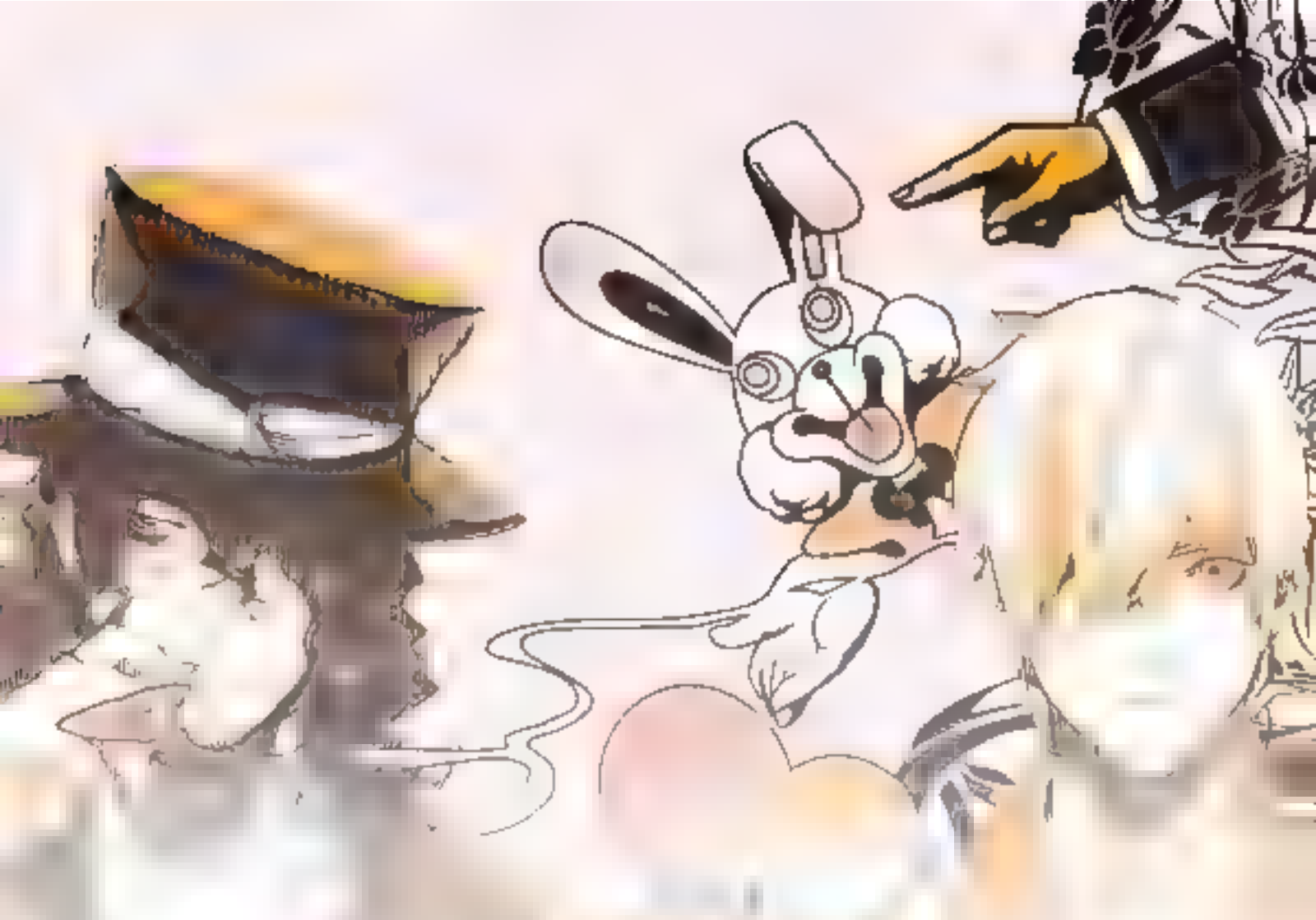
WHAT'S IT FEEL LIKE...
TO KILL SOMEONE?
... WHO KNOWS?
SORRY, BUT I NEVER REALLY FEEL ANYTHING WHEN KILLING A PERSON.
BECAUSE IT'S NOT THE TYPE OF THING YOU CAN PUT INTO WORDS.
IT'D BE A DIFFERENT STORY IF I HAD A DATE WITH A CUTE GIRL,
BUT THE ONLY THING THE CURRENT ME NEEDS IS THIS.
YEAH, OF COURSE, YOU CAN'T.
THE HELL?
I CAN'T USE THAT.
IS IT REALLY OKAY?
SHUT UP, LET'S GO.

ALRIGHTY THEN! TODAY I'M IN A SUPER GOOD MOOD——
SHALL WE GO BEAT THE HELL OUT OF THE WHITE RABBIT ——?
... NOPE. WE AREN'T DOING THAT TODAY.
... Hah? Whaddya mean?
——THE TIME LIMIT.
I DON'T HAVE ANY OBLIGATION TO ANSWER ANY MORE OF YOUR BORING QUESTIONS.
IF YOU UNDERSTAND, THEN HURRY UP AND COME ON.
BUT YOU DIDN'T ANSWER ANY OF MY QUESTIONS!!


I WONDER IF ALICE WILL COME TOMORROW?
HEY,
I'D BE REALLY HAPPY
TO MEET ALICE.
... YEAH, ME TOO.

I HAVE TO
PROTECT ALICE
... I HAVE TO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY...
FROM "THAT MAN"...

flip
HM.
IT'S REALLY GETTING TO THE GOOD PART.
NO ONE KNOWS HOW THE STORY WILL CONTINUE
THE JANUARY ISSUE 'S OUT ON NOVEMBER 28TH!



FALLEN SYNDICATE

presents

Are You Alice?

by Ninomiya Ai (story) and Katagiri Ikumi (art)

... IT'S TIME.

WHAT'S THAT? DID YOU GET A SUMMONS FROM THE QUEEN?

I'm not going. I just wanna relax today.

... A PART-TIME JOB?

NO, THIS IS JUST A PERSONAL PART-TIME JOB. THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO COME ALONG.

HOLD ON!!

WELL, THEN. I'M OFF.

Are you Areha...? (アーユーアレハ)

It's a splendid name that really brings out the power of the body...

Fushishii... is what you're... calling that...?

DON'T LOOK DOWN ON FUSHISHII. I'LL KILL YOU.

IN THIS PLA-

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE SOMETHING AS TERRIFYING AS THAT

WHAT THE HELL IS WITH THAT SCARY THING!?

?

DON'T "?" ME! DON'T JUST TILT YOUR HEAD!

WHEN I'M INSIDE FUSHISHII I CAN UNDERSTAND THE WHITE RABBIT'S FEELINGS A LITTLE BETTER .

AND I ALSO UNDERSTAND THE FEELING OF BEING CHASED BY ALICE...

Well not if no one is around. The scene is important

I SEE... Ah

Of course I couldn't discern Hatter's facial expressions at the time...

... HATTER...

... EVERYONE IS WAITING FOR FUSHISHII. SORRY, ALICE.

AND THAT'S THE REASON I CAN BE PROUD OF THIS JOB.

And this is the most

human he's ever looked.

But, I wonder why...

his feelings about Alice in Wonderland have become a jumble of everything from tenacity to resignation.

THE HATTER SHOULD BE GIVING IT HIS ALL AROUND THIS TIME, HUH...?

If someone tells me not to come then I want to do so even more.

Fushishii's lack of popularity is the greatest in all of Wonderland.

BECAUSE IT'S SO CREEPY.

No one would chase after that thing.

Waaaah

?

Ugaaah

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SCANNING: Leinaud

TRANSLATING: Morbid_Charade

PROOFREADING: lucagrabacr

CLEANING: Syeki

TYPESETTING: Rukayex

QUALITY CHECKING: metalmallow

http://fallensyndicate.com

H—HERE. SOME NEW POTENTIAL PROJECTS, MISS ADMIN.
PLEASE, TAKE A LOOK. SOME OF THEM LOOK QUITE PROMISING.
OHOHO? LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT THEM, THEN.
MORE PROJECTS?
I WANT MORE PROJECTS AND FASTER RELEASES!
SIGH
AW CRAP, THE FANS ARE GOING TO BE PISSED.
OH WELL-
THOSE WERE REALLY GOOD!
YES, THEY WERE. BUT WE SIMPLY DONT HAVE THE STAFF FOR THEM.
AGAIN?!
toss
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR?!
WHAT?!?!
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WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT MORE STAFF. THESE PROJECTS DON'T CLEAN THEMSELVES, YOU KNOW.
INSTEAD OF COMPLAINING ABOUT IT, THEY SHOULD VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT.

うちの陛
WE NEED A TRANSLATOR!!
... for the series Her Highness is a Novice by Kosumi Fujiko, mangaka of Samuari Drive and artist for Sengoku Blood. If you're interested in translating this series, please drop us a shout on our forum at fallensyndicate.com/forum or send us an email at fallen syndicate@hotmail.com! Guest translators are welcome!
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